

Public Libraries

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The Indifference of the Public to the Library*

Henry F. Marx, librarian, Public library, Easton, Pa.

A questionnaire circulated among the librarians of this state by Miss Anna MacDonald, consulting librarian of the Free library commission of Pennsylvania, brings out the fact that a majority of the librarians consider the indifference of the public one of the greatest hindrances in their work. This is the explanation of the subject now offered for your consideration. I am without foresight and easily led. Miss MacDonald is very plausible and persuasive. Hence my presence on the platform to-day. But even the most patient of beasts is known to balk, take the bit in his teeth and go his own way. So contrary-minded is he that he munches the thistle dreamily and contentedly like an epicure at a feast.

Pardon me then if I maintain that the indifference of the public is not a hindrance but a constant source of inspiration. Were it not for this indifference, many of us would become mere custodians and dispensers of books, careless, indifferent, rut-bound, and devoid of initiative. To measure the success of a library by the number of volumes it circulates annually, to consider the amount of business rather than the quality, is manifestly unjust. Yet the circulation like the gas meter is always registering and is read monthly by the trustees. Unlike the gas meter, a lower reading in successive months brings no word of praise, but must be apologized for as the result of

the moving picture habit, the "tabernacle" campaign of a Billy Sunday, or an epidemic of infantile paralysis.

Such being the case, the luckless librarian deservedly receives as much sympathy as the golfer, who tells his hard luck tale at the nineteenth hole, of balls, bunkered or engulfed in sand pits. Of course there is a trap waiting for every topped drive or sliced ball. That is the game. The more difficult it is, the more skill is rewarded, and the dub punished. Then let us play the game to win in spite of the difficulties known to us all. The indifference of the public is a public challenge and must be accepted as such and fought to a finish. Falling or rising circulation is the barometer which predicts squalls or fair and promising weather for the librarian. A constant reading of it forces the ambitious librarian to increased effort. He enjoys the happiness of discontent. It is to such a stimulus that we owe the great strides made in library work in the past quarter of a century. Reaching out for a greater volume of business, and following the line of least resistance, the librarian has enticed the children within the library walls, first through picture books, then through story books. He has introduced the story hour in school and library. He has taken the book to them and placed it on the shelves in their own schoolroom. He has established clubs and reading circles; sought out the remote districts of his community and located there deposit stations and branch libraries; extended the radius of his activities even into the surrounding country and circulated traveling libraries. Not stopping there he has considered the needs of particular classes of men, placed

*Read before the Keystone state library association, October 13, 1916.

a municipal reference library in the city hall, and maintained in the business section a branch supplied with the working tools needed by the business man in his daily work. What has not the indifference of the public forced the librarian to do and to do well?

All this has been accomplished without other backing than the voluntary interest of the people. When I compare the library's measure of success with that of the church and the public schools with which we are classed as a moral and educational force I am proud of the fact that I am a member of this body. The church is preaching to empty pews although the force of centuries of tradition and God-fearing forefathers urges to attendance. The public schools are crowded, but what would be the result if the compulsory school law were repealed? What a small percentage of the pupils ever finish their high school course! It should be a matter of pride to the library profession that it has prevailed in face of not a passive but an active opposition.

I refer to the counter-attractions of the Sunday newspapers, the countless numbers of cheap magazines, and yellow literature. How many persons say "I never go to the library. It is all that I can do to finish the magazines I take." Parents will tell you that they are glad the old dime novels have disappeared. Yet 15,000 nickel novels are sold every year in the city of Easton, the home of Lafayette college with its 700 students—a city containing 30,000 inhabitants. I doubt not that their circulation is in excess of that of the books in the public library. These same guileless parents are purchasing and placing in the hands of their boys and girls the very dime novels of old, which, in more attractive binding and print and at advanced prices, are filling the shelves of bookstores and department stores in innumerable series, chronicling the impossible adventures and deeds of the super-boy.

This may account for much of the indifference of adult and juvenile to the library. Yet it is a challenge. Let us meet it! I remember, if you will pardon the intrusion of a personal experience, that

when I started the lecture courses in the Easton public library ten years ago, the trustees were opposed to it. Luckily I had engaged the lecturers before asking the consent of my masters. To my surprise, on hearing of it, one of them said, "Marx, had you asked my permission I would have refused it, for it is bound to result in a financial loss as every lecture course in Easton has been a failure." The statement was true; for Easton was known among lecture bureaus as the poorest lecture town in the state. However, this opposition was stimulating. I buttonholed every friend and acquaintance in the city, and talked lectures on the street, in the cars, and in my sleep. The result was that I sold out the entire house. Today Easton is a great lecture centre. Instead of one it supports four lecture courses annually. And three times I have been compelled to seek new audiences as different clubs, composed of former patrons, now give courses of their own. First composed of the elect of the city, the library lectures have broadened their field and now have a generous patronage drawn from those behind the counter and the bench as well. Let me say again, then, the indifference of the public is a challenge which stirs the blood and calls for a fight to the finish. Once overcome this indifference and the resulting enthusiasm and support will be in like proportion.

A library, to succeed, must learn its lesson from the merchant. He does not sit down in a back street and wait for the public to open his doors and then stand indifferently behind his counters with the shelves full of goods and listlessly await the pleasure of the customer. He is all affability and courtesy. He has attractive window displays, and \$1.98 bargain signs. The newspapers are filled with his glowing advertisements so that no woman but feels an irresistible impulse to add another unnecessary shirt waist to her collection, or a new hat because even if it is the end of the season she can lay it away for next year.

Let me read to you a clipping from the Boston *Transcript*, written by L. R. Kilrain:

PUBLIC LIBRARIES complain that each succeeding year sees fewer people availing themselves of the many advantages which the libraries have to offer. The libraries might devote a small part of their book appropriations to printing and posting a few vigorous street-car and bill-board signs, and display newspaper advertising. A snappy poster in the following up-to-date style should effect a great increase in the numbers of library users:

WHO KILLED EDWIN DROOD?

How Did Marie Roget Meet Her Fate?

Why did the Dinohippus become extinct when he was prevented from scratching his ears on the bark of the caphlophus tree?

You can find out about these exciting matters at the....Public Library.

FREE TRIP TO THE TROPICS.

North or South Poles, Desert Islands, Lost Continents, Ancient and Modern Cities, and Several Other Places You Never Heard Of!

All these may be obtained absolutely free of charge in the books of the....Public Library.

Do You Want to Raise Babies, Hedges, Umbrellas, Poultry, Money, Dogs, Asparagus, Goldfish, Fruit Trees, Pigs, Mushrooms, Black Foxes, Grapes, or Anything Else?

If so, you should not fail to consult the books of the....Public Library, which contain the latest scientific information on the raising of everything from germs to giraffes!

Do You Want to Obtain Plans for a New House, a Smell-Less Method of Cooking Cabbage, a Means of Removing Freckles from the Nose, a Diagram for a Vegetable Garden, a Cure for Lumbago, Instructions for Making a Will, a Design for a Watch-Monogram, a Pattern for an Evening Gown, Rules for Knitting a Feed-Bag for a Pet Pony, a Recipe for Making a Lampshade Into a Hat, Etcetera?

If you do, call upon the....Public Library.

The most recent information on these and many other subjects are at your disposal. Parlez Vous Francais? We have a large number of French books and newspapers. Come up and look them over.

Sprechen Sie Deutsch? We have books in simple, compound and complex German. They are at your disposal.

Spanish, Russian, Greek, Hindu, Danish, Dutch, Swedish, Finnish, Lettish, Hebraic, Arabian, Armenian, Serbian and other languages are represented on our shelves.

LEADING NEWSPAPERS OF THE WORLD!

Latest Magazines!

New Novels!

THEY'RE ALL FREE!

Airy reading rooms, cool in summer and warm in winter.

Polite and efficient attendants.

Commodious card catalogs.

Rapid delivery.

WE SOLICIT YOUR PATRONAGE.

THE....PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Open from 9:30 A. M. to 10:00 P. M.

Located at Corner of Main & Pleasant Sts.
Cars run past door.

Are we too proud, too dignified for this? Even the churches are coming to it since Billy Sunday has clothed religion and the deity in the picturesque language of the streets.

What would you say of the merchant who advertises by simply printing lists of the contents of his shelves: so many yards of silks, dress goods, linen, etc.? That man would soon become bankrupt, no matter how choice and well-selected a stock he carried, while the little shop around the corner would be thronged with buyers eagerly crowding each other through the doors to win the spoil which Polyanna words had painted in rainbow colors. More than the mere heading "Library Notes," followed by a list of the books recently added, is needed to fix the attention of the newspaper reader. The articles must have catching titles to arouse the interest of those who do not possess the library habit. They must be tinged with a human interest—that winning quality which the business man calls a punch.

I looked over the local paper for last Saturday announcing the subjects of the sermons for the coming Sunday, and this is what I read: "Children's Day: talk on 'Ye are the Light of the World,' illustrated with candles showing the relative influence that children of the several departments may exert in striving for their Master." These are the headings of some of the promised sermons: "The man at the gate," "Gilded sins," "Red Christians," (I have seen blue ones, but why red?), "The man who mistook his friend for an enemy," "The fading leaf, and then the thriller, "Why three men die suddenly on College Hill." So they vary from the sentimental to the melodramatic.

Does the library need to hold back in any line of endeavor where such an example is set?

Look at the signs in the street cars and you may read how even the banker, discarding his high hat and gold-headed cane, is begging for your money. The posters in barber-shops and store windows urge in picture and print the ambitious to supplement their education by a night course in the public schools.

But advertising costs money, and our appropriations for the purchase of books are insufficient now. Granted. But what would you think of the merchant who kept on buying new stock without trying to sell the old? Every up-to-date department store figures on spending from two to five per cent of the cost of its yearly purchases in advertising. How much do we spend? What object is there in buying new books if the old remain unread? They say that every book added to a library costs twenty-five cents in addition to its original purchase price to catalog and shelve. This is a dead book, let us buy another to stand by its side and die too, thinks many a librarian in the bottom of his heart. But why plan for a morgue? Such conduct is fatal in business. It is equally fatal to the growth of a library.

Now what are the means of advertising at our disposal? In the first place, there are two classes to reach.

1. Those already within our gates, who visit the library more or less frequently.

2. Those who pass by on the other side with averted face.

The first class is generally ensnared by every librarian by attractive signs and notices posted in conspicuous places—lists of recent additions to the library, of carefully chosen books listed by subjects, and reading lists of various kinds. Now how do we distribute not only these but information about the library? The newspaper will frequently print them but perhaps in some secluded nook where they will bloom unseen. Yet we have a daily means of getting this information to our patrons. Follow the example of the merchant, who does not wait for his customer to pick up his advertising matter, but wraps it up with the purchase and hands it to him. Let us use our books in the same fashion. See that the library and its contents are kept eternally before the public, not once, but all the time. Woo them with repetition and variety. There may be other non-reading members of the family or friends who may be interested by this means. Like the stores, inclose advertising matter in

the letters you mail to readers whose cards have expired.

Now as to the second class: Those whom you must go out and seek. Street car advertising is too expensive to be run continuously. The funds of small libraries might stand a month of it annually—perhaps at the time when the opening of the schools announces that vacation jaunts are about ended. Lantern slides displayed in moving picture houses would be effective, but most picture places refuse advertising notices even at a price. If you have a Chamber of Commerce, or a Board of Trade, they are generally obliging enough to enclose your literature in the monthly notices sent to their members. At least such has been my experience. Also the business schools and private academies are willing to enclose notices which are pertinent to their work in the circulars which they mail annually to prospective pupils. It is rather too much to expect large industries to place notices in the pay envelopes of their employees, yet no public spirited employer would refuse to allow you to have information about the library printed on his pay envelopes, and thus give wide circulation to the advantages offered by the library. Then, though it is against the law to distribute circulars from house to house, unless placed in an envelope and addressed, yet, for a comparatively small sum, they may be placed in the daily newspapers, and distributed by newsboys on their daily route. Reach the public from another angle by giving library circulars to the teachers who will distribute them to the school children to be taken to their homes. All live superintendents are willing to coöperate with the library and will not object to this plan. These are a few of the many ways in which the public may be reached. How effective they will prove, experience alone will show.

I feel that too many of us are deterred from extensive advertising by the fear of the disapproval of our trustees. If the object of the library is to disseminate and not to accumulate books, I cannot see why in a small library the librarian is not justified in spending a large

percentage of his book fund in advertising if by so doing he can increase the usefulness of the library, and acquire a larger number of readers. Yet I know this feeling exists, for I heard several librarians at a recent meeting of the A. L. A. stand in front of an exhibit of the advertising matter issued by a well known librarian and exclaim "How does he persuade his trustees to permit him to spend so much money on advertising?"

Now as this public indifference is statewide, and the complaints are so loud and strong, I feel that a concerted action should be taken by the Keystone State library association to overcome the public inertia. The week of December 3-9 has been selected by the Boy Scouts of America to be observed as "Good Book Week." On this week they plan to conduct a campaign in the church, the school, and the home, to awaken an interest in the purchase and reading of good books. The A. L. A., as you know, has endorsed this project and decided to coöperate with the boy scouts by setting aside this week as "Library Week." Here is the opportunity for long-suffering librarians to force an indifferent public to become aware of their existence. To preach library, to teach library, to print library, to placard with library posters for seven days every village, town, and city in the State of Pennsylvania, which possesses or contemplates the possession of a public library? Surely the millennium has come.

On Sunday every pulpit will ring with the message, not only of *the* book, but of books and the library which is free to all. On one day in this week every pupil in both public and private schools will be urged to use the library. Application blanks will be handed each one and the method of registration explained. On another day the motion picture houses will feature a photo-play based upon some great book, and lantern slides will inform the spectators what the library stands for in the community. Still another day and the merchants will incorporate posters advertising the library in their window displays and wrap up library literature in the packages delivered

to their customers. This will be the time for the library to advertise an exhibit of children's books recommended to parents for purchase. Meanwhile newspapers must be induced to devote each day ample space to the conduct of the campaign and to an account of the library activities.

It is time for us to get out of the trenches, to wage aggressive warfare, and to accustom ourselves to the idea that the library fund is intended not only for the purchase of new books but also for giving a new life to the old books.

If our complaint of the indifference of the public is an honest one, and not an excuse for inefficient service, now is the time and opportunity to prove it.

The Use of Pictures in High School English*

Margaret Coult, head of English department, Barringer high school, Newark, N. J.

I have been asked to give a statement of the manner in which I have used, in my English work, the pictures I have obtained from the picture department of the Newark public library.

First is the very obvious use of presenting to classes pictures of authors whose works are studied, and of places associated with them. The personal interest in a writer aroused by such pictures is of great help in understanding and appreciating his work. Some pieces of literature are best approached through this interest in the author. A pupil made acquainted with Sir Walter Scott and the places in Scotland connected with him, with the romantic story of Stevenson's life and with his attractive personality, is prepared for a receptive study of "The lady of the lake" or of "Travels with a donkey." We all have a clearer thought of a person whose face we know. To put before a class portraits of authors they are studying helps greatly, in my experience, to enliven the study of what those authors have written. The

*Used by permission from Dana's American library economy—Aids in high school teaching.

pictures that can be used in this way, if one has a large collection to draw from, are much greater in number than any text-book can supply. Many of our text-books are, it is true, pleasantly illustrated; but their illustrations are, without question, quite insufficient for satisfactory use with a class.

Closely akin to this use of pictures to impress upon pupils the personality and the life history of an author is their use to build out a period, to furnish accessories and details for understanding of a piece of literature or of a period of literature. In studying Macaulay's *Life of Johnson*, for instance, it is surely desirable that the pupil realize clearly the period in which Johnson flourished—that he know the great men grouped about Johnson in his club, that he form mental pictures of the society gathered in the parlors of Mrs Thrale. To that end I put before my classes a series of pictures on the life and times of Johnson. Fortunately, this period is easily illustrated. These give, in lively presentation, the people of the times. We have many colored prints of famous pictures by Reynolds. To these we have added a set selected from Abbey's illustrations for Goldsmith's "Deserted village." This Johnson collection, set about an ordinary school room, makes doubly interesting to the pupils the literature they are studying.

The pictures are easily put up. Many of them are large enough to be seen plainly across the school room. Stretch an ordinary picture wire along the top of the blackboard, fasten a little Dennison hanger to the mounting card, and thus arrange a line of pictures to be exhibited. Large illustrations thus displayed are far better than small pictures which must be passed from hand to hand. The latter method of necessity scatters the attention of the class, while the larger pictures can be discussed by the teacher and the class as a whole. The teacher and the class can look at them and talk about them before school, at noon time, and after school, as the class is gathering for recitation, or as it leaves the room.

What I have said in regard to illustrating Macaulay's "Johnson," I could say in regard to many other pieces of literature. We have an admirable list of Milton subjects: some that help to visualize lines of his poems; some that show the characteristics of that English landscape out of which came so large a part of *L'Allegro* and *Il Penseroso*; others that give an impression of the college buildings at Oxford and Cambridge, the architecture that was in Milton's mind when he wrote of "storied windows, richly dight," and of "antique pillars, massy proof," but most of the pictures we use are gathered from varied sources and were not originally intended as illustrations for Milton's poems.

Another phase of the use of pictures in English work is as an instigation to description and narration, particularly the former. Many of the pupils in our high schools have seen nature very imperfectly. Some that are keen-minded when dealing with people and the conduct of life, are blind and dumb when called upon to write or talk about the out-of-door world. I remember particularly one bright little boy, who, when asked to write a description of something that he had seen and enjoyed in nature, said, "I cannot do that at all; I don't know anything about it. I do remember a certain grove near a little town in which I was staying one summer; but," he added, "the reason I liked that grove was that I could go there and read." The lad had really never seen the place in which he was reading. Now, for such pupils the discussion of pictures by the teacher with the class will do much. It is easy for a teacher to put before the class a good picture, which all of the class can see, and discuss that picture with the class, finding out what are its artistic features, deciding upon a method of attack in description, selecting the details to be described, and agreeing upon the order in which the details are to be mentioned. Such work is decidedly helpful, helpful not only in studying description, but in the more important matter of arousing appreciation.

I have long thought that one of the reasons for literary blindness on the part of our pupils is that they are artistically blind, not only to literature, but to form, grouping, color; to all of those sources of artistic effect that can be so directly presented in a picture. I believe that a discussion of pictures by the teacher with the class is perhaps the best, and easiest, method of arousing artistic perception; and hence is a direct and simple method of developing literary skill.

There is another use to which I have sometimes put pictures. Suppose that I have been studying with a class the development of the sense of beauty at the time of the Renaissance. How clearly that subject may be presented by putting before the class a series of photographs of typical pictures of Italian painters from Cimabue to Raphael and Leonardo da Vinci. In this succession of pictures can be seen at a glance the growth in grace of line, in skill in grouping—in a word, in beauty.

There are many other ways in which pictures may be made helpful in English work. I sometimes hang about the room examples of the work, say, of Maxfield Parrish, asking the members of the class to choose each a picture; then, after the pictures have been in the room about a week, the pupil brings his choice before the class and comments upon it, pointing out its value as he has discovered it for himself. In work like this it is well for the teacher to discuss two or three pictures first, as a guide to the pupils. Such work could be developed almost endlessly. I have spoken of the pictures of Maxfield Parrish because they show imaginative treatment of a subject, and present fine studies in the use of color. Pictures by Turner are also good for this purpose.

It is obvious that, while a pupil is gaining by exercises like these some ideas of composition and artistic effect, he is also acquiring knowledge of artists and of their work, knowledge by no means useless.

I occasionally have upon my hands classes particularly stupid, dull, devoid of ideas. To stimulate them I find it helpful to put up about the room a rather miscellaneous collection of pictures, large enough for the whole class to see; then set to work, teacher and pupil together, writing brief themes suggested by the pictures, reading them in class and discussing them, with the pictures before us to help the discussion.

Increasing the Library Appropriation

In industry it is hard to think of a bookseller as competing with the man who builds sidewalks; but in the library's competition with other city departments for more money, we have to convince some men who can see no value in books as compared with paved streets. In this case definite figures are the most telling argument. Largely by a judicious use of telling figures and definite facts the tax levy for the Minneapolis public library has been increased from .85 of a mill in 1916 to a full mill (the maximum allowed by law) in 1917.

One newspaper man reported that in a 25 minute talk before the Board of Tax Levy, Miss Gratia A. Countryman, the librarian, made \$37,017—a rate of \$1,480.70 a minute, or \$9.88 a word, if she spoke 150 words a minute. Other libraries may be interested in the way in which Miss Countryman presented her statistics, and the tables which follow may suggest lines along which other cities may work.

In Minneapolis, each city department and board is required to submit on August 1, an itemized budget for the coming year. These budgets are collected and printed before the Board of Tax Levy meets in September, and show in different columns the estimate for the coming year, the appropriation for the present year, and actual expenditures for the past year—in each case for every item in the budget. These are the figures that are acted upon by the Board of Tax Levy.

Last year the appropriation was so much less than the request made by the library that a deficit at the end of 1916 is unavoidable. This is due to the fact that four new branches have been completed and opened since the last appropriation was made, and the deficit was undoubtedly a strong argument for an increased appropriation.

To supplement the printed figures, Miss Countryman distributed among those present at the hearing, tables multigraphed on small slips of paper, arranged in the order in which she wished to take them up.

The first sheet showed the percentage of city taxes received for library use, from 1911 to 1916—a gradual decrease as follows:

1911.....	3.3%	1914.....	2.6%
1912.....	3.2%	1915.....	2.8%
1913.....	2.9%	1916.....	2.7%

The second table compared the increase in taxes for all city purposes with the library increase year by year.

	Taxes for all city purposes	Library taxes
1911-12	3.8%	1.0%
1912-13	11.8	0.5
1913-14	9.9	9.8
1914-15	*9.6	*11.9
1915-16	15.1	9.5

*Decrease.

The first two tables together show clearly that the library has not been getting its share of increase in taxes.

The next table with the heading "Increase in work," showed an increase year by year from 1911 to 1915 in the total number of borrowers registered and a growth in circulation from 1,053,713 in 1911 to 1,506,118 last year.

Comparative figures next showed that Minneapolis was ahead of six larger cities in proportion of borrowers to population, and the fact that 26% of the population is reached by the library indicates that "no institution in the city comes into such close contact with so large a part of the community."

The purpose of the next table was to furnish a text for the amount of work the library is doing for the schools.

The Board of Education is asking for a huge increase in appropriations, but this table shows that they are already getting a great amount of benefit from the money appropriated for library use.

School class-room use

43 School buildings.
378 Class room libraries.
125,571 Circulation in schools.

Comparison

	Vols.	Circ.	Average per vol.
Minneapolis	7,640	125,571	16.43
Brooklyn	11,494	45,574	3.96
Buffalo	42,086	499,397	11.86
Cleveland	14,848	139,225	9.37
St. Louis	6,935	117,112	16.8

County Work

(One year old)

26 stations.
2,253 circulation (three months).

The following sheet emphasized the importance of an adequate appropriation, so that the library may not be without "its necessary equipment."

Reduced book fund

Many items of expense are standing expenses and cannot be reduced.

The book fund is the flexible fund and the first fund to suffer from reduced funds.

Books and periodicals are the most necessary equipment and the equipment which wears out fastest.

	Vols. bought	Worn out
1911.....	32,284	10,122
1912.....	29,502	7,623
1913.....	27,095	10,825
1914.....	31,709	11,567
1915.....	21,025	10,467

Summary

of comparative statistics for last five years:

Increase in:

Library circulation	47%
Volumes in library	43%
Library borrowers	41%
Value of library property	34%
(Buildings and land.)	
Population of city	17%
Library appropriation	9%
Appropriations for all city purposes..	34%

When she had finished with her comments on these convincing figures, Miss Countryman passed around three larger sheets, to show the extent of the library's work. The first showed

What the city gets for its money

The free use of 302,389 volumes.

An index to these books of 629,000 cards (exclusive of branches).

A trained and educated staff to make information available.

Reference facilities for more than one million readers per year.

The best art department outside of New York and Boston.

A well equipped technical department.

A growing music department.

1,500 current magazines and newspapers.

8,000 lantern slides.

50,000 mounted pictures for circulation.

Business branch: One of two such branches in the United States. (Containing maps, directories of all the great cities, thousands of clippings on municipal and business subjects, etc.)

14 branches. (8 in owned buildings, 2 in field houses.)

2 municipal reading rooms, Court House and Gateway Park.

23 deposit stations (including 6 school stations).

130 delivery points in the city.

The second and third sheets listed questions asked at various times during the last six months at the Business branch, with the names of the firms and organizations requesting the information; these showed not only the variety of the work done, but the different types of business which can be aided, financially and otherwise, by this library.

The description of these arguments by one member of the Board of tax levy as "the finest presentation I ever heard before this board," was supported by the voting of an appropriation for 1917 which is over 20% more than that allowed for 1916.

R. L. WALKLEY.

Minneapolis, Minn.

Concerning Annual Report of Library of Congress

The Library of Congress is revising its mailing list of libraries receiving the Annual report of the librarian. Any library or institution not at present on the mailing list and having a definite need for or interest in the report, should communicate at once with Librarian of Congress, Washington, D. C.

Acknowledgement

We note Mr Louis N. Wilson's classification of the European war in the November number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

We wish to thank him for several suggestions he has given us in this scheme and take this opportunity to state that the

European war scheme of the Decimal Classification advisory committee of the A. L. A. prepared by Mr Chas. Flag is at present being tested with thousands of references to periodic as well as book literature and will be ready for recommendation to the D. C. editors for publication next spring.

A. LAW VOGEL,

San Francisco.

Chairman.

The Cases in the Case

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES: Referring to the subject of "Catalogitis" on page 414 of PUBLIC LIBRARIES for November, may I say that the ants treated the catalog with more respect than Librarian, because they carefully avoided attacking even the *catalog cases*? It was the *book* cases they ate and *not* the *catalog* trays. I am afraid Librarian gave careless reading to our very excellent report.

OBSERVER.

Extend the Training

To the Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

That paragraph in your editorial comment in the November issue, regarding the desirability of a summer course for library trustees in a state university, leads to the question whether such a course should not be broader than a mere course for library trustees, but rather a course for trustees of all public institutions, such as hospitals, homes for the aged, even for commissioners of parks, museums and directors of all public trusts. The fundamental training which these public or semi-public officials should have being much the same, the state university might offer a course which would be of value to all such trustees, each one, however, specializing in his particular line.

If it is not reasonable to hope that any considerable number of such trustees would be willing or able to attend a summer school, perhaps, instead, such a course by correspondence could be given with fairly satisfactory results. Theoretically the suggestion made by you is an excellent one. As to whether or not the trustees could be persuaded to take advantage of it, that is another question.

New York.

R.

Public Libraries

MONTHLY - EXCEPT AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

Library Bureau	- - - - -	Publishers
M. E. AHERN	- - - - -	Editor
Subscription	- - - - -	\$2 a year
Five copies to one library	- - - - -	\$8 a year
Single number	- - - - -	25 cents
Foreign subscriptions	- - - - -	\$2.25 a year

Entered as second-class matter May 17, 1896, at the Post office at Chicago, Ill., under act of March 3, 1897.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an Exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

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1896—1916

May one feel a small bit of pride in the thought of twenty-one volumes of honest endeavor to bring a helpful message to the most conscientious body of workers in the world, for a period of more than two hundred months?

The record is not a perfect one by any means, but it has been made under the same mistaken conditions in which most library workers serve, such a lot of big things pressing for attention, that many small defects are unnoticed. It is, at least, free from any spirit of wrong doing, full of intent of fairness in all endeavor and concerned, always, in forwarding the lines of successful librarianship.

Other fields of endeavor would have yielded larger monetary returns. Nothing could equal in value the faithful friendships which this long period of service has bestowed. Whatever has been well done, would not have been possible without the loyal personal support from a world wide circle. The mistakes would have overwhelmed the effort long ago, without the kindly consideration which has overlooked them. The thought is enheartening for the future.

Two speakers at recent library association meetings have put in permanent form remarkable addresses on the library movement of today. Both have traced the origin of the library to the borders of greatest antiquity, and then discussed it in relation to present-day conditions. One of these addresses, "The library in the economy of the state," was delivered at the annual meeting of the New York library association at Richfield Springs in September by Charles Beatty Alexander, LL. D., Litt. D., regent of the University of the State of New York, and therefore a member of the State library commission.

The other was given at the Wisconsin library meeting in October, by Mrs Victor L. Berger, of Milwaukee, who, in her address on "The public library and the working class," traced the history of libraries when they served the kings and priests in the temple, down to the present day, when the library is the continuation school for life.

These addresses ought to be given the widest publicity among those who are not librarians, so that a better understanding of library service and consequently, a better appreciation of its efforts, may be disseminated among the people.

Probably *Reedy's Mirror* is on some of the periodical lists of the country, and if it is "come-at-able" the article on "Our public library" by Vine McCasland will well repay reading. If one could think of Dr Bostwick as being puffed up, one would think he certainly had just cause therefor when the contributor to the *Mirror's* pages finishes up a two-page eulogy of the library with the statement that "under his leadership the library has become a great dynamo of social energy, radiating not only intelligence, but friendliness, better understanding, kindly relations among people. No business conducted for private gain takes as much pains to please its customers and to secure new ones. Socialists may well point to the library as an example of conspicuous success without incentive of gain.

Of doubtful value—At the recent meeting of the Indiana library asso-

ciation, Mr Vachel Lindsay was the speaker at an evening session. He gave a double bill, as it were, the second part being a recital of a number of his poems which are general favorites. He gave for the first part a forty-five-minutes talk on Photo plays. The *motif* of his address urged the educational value of such presentations in the study of art and literature.

With all due respect to the moving spirit which Mr Lindsay puts into his writings, it may be questioned whether he is not using his power in a wrong direction in trying to induce the library forces to combine with photo plays as an aid in artistic education. He talked convincingly of "moving sculpture," "moving architecture," "moving painting," but after all, is that reality? Do we want moving sculpture? Is it truth? When and where does it really belong? Moving splendors? Does one need to go into a playhouse to see the greatest of these? And so with the rest of his examples.

And as to the value of the description and intimate narratives of the various idols of the moving pictures which Mr Lindsay so enthusiastically poured out on his audience, there can be little question. Such knowledge in the possession of a librarian occupies space that it would seem could be used to a better advantage in every direction.

The business of the library is to introduce readers of all kinds to *the books which are written for them*, to the real pictures, from which through *contemplation*, not from a hasty nod in passing, they may receive the message which from the beginning belonged to them; to statuary, perhaps, which shows them the Divine in form; in short, to arouse the mind to realization "of things as they are," rather than to lull it into insensate fatuity by sending a hurried run of suggestions over its sensibilities, leaving it less able to reach out into the heart of things.

Mr Lindsay made much of the point that the photo play showed environment and the change of location much

more definitely than the drama or the story. But the interchange of mind which in the play is the essential element is left out entirely, or at the best is only suggested. A series of jerks toward conclusions is not conducive to mental or spiritual growth. There is nothing given commensurate with the deterioration in the power of concentration which comes from a continuous or even frequent immersion in the waves of moving pictures.

Librarians will do well before giving place to the lure of the movies to ponder carefully the office which the library bears in the community. Wordsworth says:

Youth should be awed, religiously possessed
With a conviction of the power that waits
On knowledge, when sincerely sought and
prized.

For its own sake, on glory and on praise
If but by labor won, and fit to endure
The passing day; should learn to put aside
Her trappings here, should strip them off
abashed

Before antiquity and steadfast truth
And strong book-mindedness.

Prof G. W. Patrick, in his recently published "The psychology of relaxation," says:

In no sense can moving pictures be included in forms of relaxation for children. On the contrary, their effect is to speed up a mental life already under too much stimulation. The concentration of attention, undermined by the plot interest and by the rapidity of the changing scenes, is an effect quite the opposite of that which recreation and relaxation seek to attain.

We hear about the educational value of the moving pictures. Surely, if this is education, it is of an antiquated kind. Every educator now knows that an education in which the child is passive and quiescent is of little value. The child must respond, he must react to his impressions. Flashing before his eyes a lot of scenes is not education, even when the scenes themselves are of a harmless character.

Mr Lindsay has struck a new note in the field of poetic fancy and his singing has caught a something in the hearts of his hearers that has waited long for the acceptable message he brings. One listened with pleasure to his own rendering of his poems, only a bit disturbed by haunting protest left over from his address.

Illinois Library Association Report on meeting at Ottawa

The Illinois library association convened for its twenty-first annual conference, October 11-13, 1916, at Ottawa. This location was chosen that the sessions might be held within easy reach of the northern part of the state and because of the scenic and historical attractions connected with the surrounding region. Ottawa is 80 miles southwest of Chicago and nine miles from Starved Rock state park.

The association was called to order by President Booth on Wednesday, 2 p. m., with about 75 persons present. A brief address of welcome to the delegates was given by Mr Strong, city attorney, the mayor being out of the city. Following this, President Booth addressed the association, the title of her paper being A debtor to his profession. The address dealt with the need of standardizing the requirements for library training and for entrance to the library profession; with the necessity for bettering the quality of workers already within the profession; with the desirability of promoting these ends partly by some plan of certification; and finally on the fact that the librarian's opportunity for service makes some such efforts as the above obligatory upon him.

The president was followed by Mrs Jessie Palmer Weber of the State Historical library, Springfield, who outlined the plans for celebrating the Illinois Centennial year in 1918, and suggesting some of the means by which libraries may coöperate in the general movement and encourage observance of the occasion in their own communities.

Secretary's report

In addition to the regular correspondence of the secretary's office, a liberal circularizing was reported in the course of the year with a view to enlisting new members and increasing the interest of those already enrolled. There were 700 letters to non-member library workers mailed in January, 1916, urging membership in the asso-

ciation. About the same time circulars were sent to members requesting suggestions as to the association's activities. In September, 1916, a notice of suggested changes in the constitution was sent to members at the direction of the president. Preparatory to the Ottawa conference, 700 preliminary post card announcements and 350 programs were mailed. The number of paid memberships is 187.

A report was also given by President Booth on the Asbury Park conference of the American library association in July. She spoke of the success and profit of the conference.

Proposed legislation

A lengthy report was submitted by the Legislative committee on the introduction of certain measures at the session of the General Assembly in 1917. The first and most important of these measures in the eyes of the committee was a bill to make possible the establishment of county libraries in such counties as may signify a desire for them. A draft of such a bill accompanied the report, and included provision for enabling counties to secure library facilities by contract as well as by the establishment of public libraries. This measure was approved by the association. The committee also recommended the introduction of a bill permitting community libraries. This idea is new to Illinois, but the thought of the committee was to frame a measure modeled to some extent on that which provides for community schools. This suggestion was approved by the association.

For the purpose of encouraging better professional standards, the committee advised a law providing for the certification of librarians, this law to be on lines somewhat similar to an Indiana bill covering this subject which was introduced in the last session of the Indiana legislature. It is proposed that there be a Board of Library Examiners authorized to determine grades of service, hold examinations and issue certificates. There was some discussion as to whether exemptions should

be allowed certain classes of workers, and in accordance to discussion on the floor the committee included in its report the proposal to exempt from examination not only persons who were employed on a certain date but those who previous to that time had been in the service of libraries. The importance of a certification measure was emphasized because of its influence upon professional standards and because something of the kind must almost inevitably precede any legislation looking toward a system of pensions for library workers. The measure was accepted by the association.

The committee favored the passage of a law putting into force the report of the Illinois committee on economy and efficiency as far as it deals with the centralizing of the State's library agencies. This was endorsed by the association. It was finally ordered that the incoming Legislative committee be empowered to make such changes in the bills and program outlined above as might seem necessary so long as their main purpose was not altered, or to cease urging or refrain from urging any of the measures in question in case this should seem to them wise and expedient; also that the incoming Legislative committee coöperate with any similar committee which might be appointed by the Illinois library trustees' association. In view of the discussion these last two recommendations were understood by the committee as constituting instructions to coöperate with whatever agencies may be working in accord with the purpose of the report.

Miss Eva Cloud of Kewanee, speaking for the Publicity committee, told of efforts to have clubs in various towns give one program a year to some library topic and of the planning of 15 programs to this purpose by the committee; of the sending out of certain material for this use upon request and of the reference of inquirers to the State library commission in some cases. Permission was secured from Superintendent Blair to have library material published occasionally in the *Educa-*

tional Press Bulletin. There had been little done towards getting library articles printed in general periodicals. One such was reported as having been published in a denomination paper but it had seemed wisest to leave work of this character for the most part to the American library association.

An expression as to a place of meeting for 1917 A. L. A. meeting, showed a sentiment in favor of a mid-west location and of a desire to have the conference held in a city if no suitable resort could be found.

Book symposium

The general session, Wednesday evening, was devoted to a book symposium and to a paper of related nature. The symposium was in charge of Miss Emma Felsenthal of the University of Illinois library. Miss Felsenthal opened the discussion with some brief remarks and with mention and brief characterization of a few titles.* She was followed by Miss Parsons of Joliet, who instead of reporting on Ross' "Old World in the new," told of some of the barren places in the library field. Miss Mather of Kankakee gave a very entertaining digest of the "Memoirs of the Margravine of Baireuth, sister of Frederick the Great"; Miss Vought of Urbana presented the "Notebooks of Samuel Butler," illustrating them with examples of the observations which Butler was accustomed to jot down as they occurred to him. The remainder of the evening was occupied by Dr A. H. Lybyer of the University of Illinois with a stimulating survey of the literature which owes its origin to the great war and the activities associated with it. Dr Lybyer touched upon the phases of the war, its events, its effects, and classified the material he described according to its sources and the character and qualifications of those who have produced it. A mimeographed selected list of useful war literature was distributed in connection with the talk.

*Yost, Casper. *Patience North*; Lindsay, Vachel. *Art of the moving picture*; Hudson, W. H. *Purple land*; Erskine, J. *Moral obligation to be intelligent*.

The round tables

On Thursday morning several round tables were held for the various library interests represented as follows:

A. Small and medium sized libraries

Leader, Miss Mabel Thain, Oak Park

Miss Dey Smith of Morris public library spoke of the necessity of big vision for librarians and emphasized the importance of spending one's best efforts on things worth while rather than making detail the important thing.

Miss Eva Cloud of Kewanee public library encouraged the librarians of small libraries by giving as her experience that the best readers among the children were those who came from small, well selected libraries. Her policy is to duplicate largely standard works and to buy very few modern books for children.

Mr Utley, secretary of the A. L. A., gave a talk on the sort of publicity desirable for libraries, illustrating by means of clippings the different kinds of articles written to call attention to library work. His plea was to make a good readable account, using statistics if necessary, but to run them in as part of the story.

Miss Helen Bagley of Oak Park public library read a paper on books for men, including both useful and diverting literature, mentioning particularly the stories and experiences of vagabonds both in fiction and real life.

The discussions following these papers were helpful and practical. The main notes were service, less red tape, and more privileges for the reader, such as abolishing the guarantor, more liberality in the number of books allowed on a card, and like measures.

B. Large college and reference libraries

Leader, J. C. M. Hanson, University of Chicago libraries

The first topic taken up dealt with the present difficulties of importation from abroad, especially from Germany. The subject was introduced by Mr Windsor, who outlined the experience of the University of Illinois library, and told of the different efforts, more

or less successful, to secure permission to import certain lots of books and periodicals urgently needed in connection with the work of the university. After considerable discussion, participated in by representatives from several of the larger libraries of Illinois, it was decided to confer with librarians from other states to see if it might not be feasible to address a joint communication to the British government, respecting the urgent needs of university and other large libraries, and ask for exceptions to be made in their favor. Should such appeal prove ineffective, it was felt that it would be wisest to order that all periodicals, as well as books, be held by German dealers until the close of the war and not risk their shipment under present conditions.

Mr Josephson reported on the proposed Union list of incunabula in America. He estimated that it would cost between three and four thousand dollars to edit adequately the list, bring it up to date. The general feeling seemed to favor a printed list rather than the preparation of a Union catalog on cards at a central bureau. It was suggested that it might be wisest to defer printing until Dr Haebler's commission had completed the *Gesammt-katalog* on which they are now at work.

Mr Remann introduced the subject of the propriety of giving to publishers and booksellers endorsements of books, particularly reference books, to be used for publication. The consensus of opinion of those present indicated that they were opposed to such endorsements as a general rule. Exceptions might occasionally be made in case of publications of learned societies and institutions, but endorsements to be used for commercial purposes were not to be encouraged.

The various machines used for photographic reproduction of parts of books, periodicals, and manuscripts were reported on by Mr Barr. He explained particularly the cameragraph in use at the John Crerar library, pointing out its advantages especially in reducing the number of volumes

sent as inter-library loans. The photostat and the rectograph were also discussed.

Miss Pendry read a paper on Vocational guidance in relation to branch libraries, which was greatly appreciated. Valuable hints were given as to best books on the subject, and the methods of bringing books and other material to the attention of the younger students, those in special need of guidance.

After some discussion on the loss of books from open shelves, and the methods of counting books and pamphlets cataloged as against counting accessions to the libraries, the meeting adjourned.

The presence of Professor Lybyer, of the University of Illinois, who shared in the discussion of several of the topics, was of great assistance as presenting the viewpoint of the user of the library.

C. School libraries

Leader, Miss Fanny Jackson, Macomb, Illinois

Two main subjects were discussed:

- 1) Inducing, directing and controlling the outside reading of students, and
 - 2) Ways of using student help, each being viewed from the standpoint of the University, the Normal school and the High School library.
- Miss Elizabeth Bryan of the loan department of the University of Illinois library told of the printed book lists which the library distributes among the students, the lists that are published in the *Daily Illini*, the list of summer reading for Engineering students for which they receive honor points, the gilt star collection of English and American fiction that is shelved in the reading room to attract the students, and the deposit libraries which are placed in the departmental libraries and in the fraternity and sorority houses. Miss Helene Louise Dickey told of the reading that is required in connection with classes and clubs at the Chicago normal university and the help which the library gives the students by means of posted lists and display shelves. Recreational

books are also deposited in the girls' rest room. Several high school librarians present told of their methods and experience in guiding the reading of the students, and the discussion which followed was eager and interesting.

The system of student help used at the University of Chicago libraries was explained by Mr Schenk. Students are used by the Acquisition department in a number of ways; in looking up order items, cutting leaves, collating, putting in plates and pockets, cutting and stamping periodicals and shelf listing. Students are also given night service in the stack and some loan desk work. In the graduate departments, library service scholarships are granted by heads of the departments to unusual students who are doing work in the department. These students work in the departmental libraries and are often qualified to classify the theses and dissertations. Students are paid twenty to thirty-three and a third cents an hour, depending on the nature of the work assigned and the qualifications and experience of the student.

Miss Ange V. Milner of the Illinois state normal university was unable to attend the meeting but sent her discussion by mail. She believes that the most effective school library staff will be composed of both trained librarians and student helpers, the number of each to depend upon the size of the school. Student helpers can be taught to do the mechanical work on the books, to shelve them, to file cards, handle the paper mail, keep the pamphlet collection in order, and do simple accessioning. They can help their inexperienced fellow students use the library and can help train their own successors. Some can do mimeographing and stenography. A capable young bookbinder worked his way through school for a year and a half by mending the library books. A few of the ablest can take charge of the library evenings.

The disadvantages of student help are the limited time of each available for

library service so that it takes four or five to cover the time of one regular assistant, and each one requires instruction and supervision; the limited time of school residence which necessitates the constant training of new helpers; and the danger of library work being slighted under pressure of other school duties. But on the other hand, student helpers are for the most part loyal, they rise to an emergency, and they make a valuable connecting link between the librarian and the student body. Student assistants at Normal are paid from fifteen to twenty cents an hour. A student taking full and satisfactory charge in the evening is paid thirty cents an hour. Payment is better compensation for library work than credits because it is for the benefit of the school rather than the student.

Miss Mabel Fletcher of Decatur presented the subject from the high school viewpoint in a paper which in her absence was read by Miss Dickey. Miss Fletcher's report told of the system just installed at the Decatur high school whereby student helpers are given credit for library work on the same basis as for activity in a literary society or for home practice in music. In connection with this, titles are given to the various helpers and a set of rules obtains which is designed to increase the interest and pride of the student in his work.

D. Business libraries

Leader, Mr Oscar Norman, Chicago

The meeting of business librarians was very informal, which accounted largely for the frank discussions that followed each talk. Miss Cora E. Hinckins described her work at Sears, Roebuck & Company, which is as complex and varied as the catalog of her firm, which Arnold Bennett has called "The most popular book of reference in the United States." By means of special bulletins and letters, and an annotated *Library bulletin of new books and suggestions*, issued bi-monthly, 14,000 employees are given the opportunity of voluntarily selecting and directing their interests in educational, recreational

social matters. The story of serving 8,000 library patrons and 250 departmental chiefs is so full of realism, romance and the spirit of service that it requires the personal touch of the librarian directing and energizing the whole movement.

In an animated talk, Miss Irene Warren gave her conception of what is involved in librarianship for a business firm, and also made a strong plea for a system of grading service in library work similar in purpose to that in use in business houses. Every one employed in a library is known to the public as a librarian, but only a few may have the qualifications which make their services of value to a business man. The first requisite for a worker in a business house is a good understanding of business organization and especially office methods. Besides books, pamphlets and periodicals there are files ad infinitum of catalogs, letters, bills, etc., to which the organizer of a special collection generally falls heir. Such files yield valuable information when once systematized, but this material is usually as welcome as a thorn because its care has in turn been wished upon the office boy, the stenographer, and the file clerk. A library worker who enters the employ of a business house should understand the various systems for filing data and correspondence. It is just as advisable for library schools to give students such instruction as it is for high schools to teach the use of books. Under present conditions, there is need in many businesses for a consulting organizer of data and material, similar to the advisory counsel and consulting engineer. This person must possess, however, a wide library experience, a good knowledge of business methods, and an abundance of ideas and ideals.

The John Crerar library needs no publicity agent to advertise its usefulness. According to Mr Tweedell, research workers throughout the United States make extensive use of its resources in person, by letter, and even by telephone. In addition to its many

bibliographical aids, it has a camera-graph service by which fac-similes of the printed page are reproduced photographically at a very nominal price. This service is not generally known and should prove very useful to individuals as well as to chiefs of small libraries.

Mr Phelan gave an account of the efforts of the Chicago public library to extend its usefulness among business men. The agency doing the best work of this kind is without question the Civics department at Central. Branches in several business houses are making it easy for the reader and student to get books and information on subjects in which he is interested.

A suggestion that a complete history and account of the scope and work of each specialized library be written by the librarian in charge was favorably received. The discussions brought out the fact that in business libraries "He profits most who serves best."

A trip to Starved Rock had been arranged for Thursday afternoon by the local committee, but owing to inclement weather it was necessary to interchange this excursion with the general session planned for Friday morning.

This session was opened by Miss Kent of Clinton reading a paper presented by Miss Joanna Strange at the A. L. A. conference in July, entitled "Library by-products."

Report of Extension commission

A report of the work of the Illinois library extension commission for the year was rendered by the secretary. Miss Price mentioned the establishment of two new township libraries and of 13 new village and city libraries; the receipt of generous gifts by a long list of libraries; the opening of several new Carnegie buildings, totaling in value \$116,000; new work among libraries, including various forms of extension undertaken by city and town libraries; improvement in book selection, expenditure and reports; the organization of several libraries by the commission, the increase of traveling

library activity, and the holding of a very helpful district meeting at Urbana in connection with the University of Illinois Summer library school. Miss Price incidentally spoke of her desire to see the program of the Legislative committee carried that the hands of the commission might be strengthened.

Community service

Following Miss Price's report, several papers were presented dealing with methods by which the library may be made a concrete help to its community. Miss Barrette of Jacksonville spoke of the splendid results secured in her city by coöperation with the local board of health. Lists, pamphlets and book-marks designed to promote hygiene education were among the devices mentioned. Miss Babcock of Austin high school, Chicago, in her paper on the high school library dwelt upon the importance of the library as a high school help, and upon the introduction of libraries into a number of Chicago high schools as branches of the public library. Miss Babcock mentioned particularly the custom of giving the English classes an hour each of instruction in the use of library tools. Miss Inness of Galesburg discussed in a careful paper the usefulness of a Municipal reference library, and the methods used in Galesburg where the mayor is a college professor and very much alert to the possibilities of municipal reference service.

Resolutions expressing the grateful appreciation of the association, of the hospitality of Ottawa and of those who contributed to the success of the meeting, were adopted.

A committee was instructed to report at the evening session resolutions relative to the death of Miss Mary Wright Plummer of New York, Mr Samuel S. Greeley of Winnetka, and of Miss Florence Whitter.

The following constitutional change was adopted:

Sect. 7, Par. 4, now reads:

The Executive Board shall administer the business affairs of the association and it shall have power in the intervals between the meetings of the association to

act on all matters on which the members reach unanimous agreement.
Changed to read as follows:

The Executive Board shall administer the business affairs of the association and it shall have power in the intervals between the meetings of the association to act on all matters on which five of the seven members reach agreement.

A motion that the amendment to Section 7, Paragraph 5, be referred to the incoming Executive Board was seconded and discussed but later withdrawn. The proposal for change in this paragraph was finally laid upon the table. A proposal to drop from the By-laws, Article 2, Section 4, which reads, "No person shall be permitted to take active part in the meetings of this association in any year for which he has failed to pay the dues by the day of the opening of such meetings," was adopted and the succeeding sections were numbered in sequence.

Mr Utley was called upon to state the situation regarding the A. L. A. meeting place for 1917. He presented the results of a recent questionnaire on the subject, and assuming that the members of the Illinois library association favored a mid-west location as shown by the vote of the preceding day, asked for further expression. The opinion of the conference was against the choice of Mackinaw in favor of a city, and specifically in favor of Chicago.

Invitations for entertaining the Illinois library association in 1917 were received from the Public library board of Peoria through Mr S. P. Prowse, and from Kewanee through Miss Eva Cloud, librarian.

At the general session, Thursday at 8:15 p. m., the following resolution was adopted:

Be it resolved, That the members of the Illinois library association in convention assembled in Ottawa, October 11-13 hereby give expression to their deep sorrow and sense of the inestimable loss to the library profession in the passing of Mary Wright Plummer, ex-president of the American library association, who gave the best years of her life to training future librarians, and raising the standard of librarianship by the expression of her ideals; of Samuel S. Greeley of Winnetka, who during long years

of service as a library trustee furthered the cause of library legislation in the state of Illinois; and of Florence Whittier, widely known as a librarian of ability through her work in the states of California and Missouri, called in the midst of her success and promise.

The representatives of companies having exhibits at the Ottawa conference were given an opportunity at the Thursday evening general session to present their wares briefly. Two minute talks were given by the following:

Mr S. B. Ford, New York Times.

Mr W. C. Rowell, H. W. Wilson Co., New York.

Mr Ralph E. Murphy, Barrett Binders, Chicago.

Mr G. Broes Van Dort, Chicago importer. Miss Emily Howe, Joliet, Suggestive book lists.

C. V. Ritter, Chicago.

The meetings closed with a very inspiring address by Mr Randall Parish of Kewanee, author and historian, on "The spirit of the pioneer." The speaker glorified the pioneer's contribution to civilization and pointed out that his motives are as operative today as in cruder times; that all advance owes itself to his inspiration and energy; and that the future calls for the continuation of his endeavor.

Mr Parish said in part:

The picturesque phase of pioneer life, connected with the fringed hunting shirt, the daring *voyageur*, the spurred and armed man, has passed and gone, but the indomitable spirit which gave them birth is as strong and vital as ever it was. It still seeks its opportunity, its historical achievements, its adventurous career.

Every man who strives, every man who thinks, every man who dares, has within him the spirit of the pioneer. It is what the world and God asks of us. We cannot stand still. We must front the unknown and conquer it, and from the heart of the mystery must pluck the truth. That man best serves his generation who braves this wilderness, who thinks the new thought, who dreams the new dream, who holds before us the banner of a new ideal.

That man who sits today in the executive chair at Washington is a pioneer; he is breaking a trail through untracked forest, clear-eyed, courageous, doing quietly the duty of his day. He is no less a pioneer than were his hardy forbears, dwelling in lonely huts holding their own with axe and rifle. He is just as alone now, fronting the problems of the future; he is clearing a passage through tangled wilderness; he is fighting his way forward step by step. He does not even know that he treading the right trail. But some day, either he or one of his fellows will come out of that dense forest, down to the river bank, and a new land, and a new hope, shall be given forever to the sons of men.

It is not what we gain, but what we win, that counts. It is not so serious a matter if we fail to gain the bauble of life, but it is a serious matter if we fail to do our part in the world, to bear our share in its burdens, and add our mite to its progress. If we have lived the life, if we have done the duty, then we have been worthy of our fathers and of the generations yet unborn.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, C. J. Barr, Chicago; first vice-president, Miss Mabel Thain, Oak Park; second vice-president, Miss Effie Lansden, Cairo; secretary, Mr E. J. Reece, Urbana; treasurer, Miss Adah F. Whitcomb, Chicago. These with the secretary of the extension commission and the ex-president will form the Executive board for 1917.

Social features

1. The reception to the delegates was prepared by the local committee, and after the Wednesday evening session the company gathered at the Ottawa boat club. Members of the library board and their wives were in the receiving line. The attendance was large and the rooms were crowded, for practically all the delegates were present. Music was furnished by the High school orchestra, and light refreshments were served.

2. The excursion to Starved Rock, planned for the Thursday afternoon, was put off until Friday morning. A company of about 88 took the boats provided by the committee at Ottawa and reached Starved Rock Park about eleven. The ride down the river was

gloriously beautiful, in full sight of the towering cliffs and hills covered with beautiful autumn foliage, interspersed with fields that spoke of full harvests. Much surprise was expressed by even the oldest inhabitant at the grandeur and beauty of the scenery in this part of the state. Many of them had had no knowledge before that Illinois possessed anything so beautiful. They compared it favorably with a trip down the Hudson. After viewing the park and exploring the cañons, the party returned to Ottawa, where they took trains for their several homes.

3. About 25 Illinois library alumni and guests had dinner together at the Clifton hotel on Thursday evening. The tables were beautifully decorated all preparations having been made by the alumni committee. Short talks were made by Mr Windsor, Miss Ahern and Miss Price. Secretary Utley and Mr Randall Parish were among the guests.

The number of students from Illinois who have taken the summer library school course is now over a hundred. It was arranged to have these former students meet on Thursday for luncheon together. About 15 students attended, as well as the University faculty who had taught in the summer school.

Exhibits

A large room adjoining the one where the meeting was held was set aside for the exhibits and the exhibitors. Among the wares on the tables were the following:

- A. L. A. publications.
- The Barrett Bindery Company—Library binders.
- Book lists to aid the small library, compiled by Emily Howe.
- Burgmeier Book Bindery—Binding.
- DuPont Fabrikoid Company, Wilmington, Del.—Binding material.
- Gaylord Bros., Syracuse, N. Y.—Library supplies.
- H. R. Hunting Co., Springfield, Mass.—Book stamping demonstration.
- A. C. McClurg & Co.—Book lists and catalogs.
- Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.—Health and Safety booklets.

Posters for library use.—Reddick's library. The Rand Company, Chicago—Visible filing systems.

C. V. Ritter, Chicago—Subscription books.

G. Broes Van Dort, Chicago—Books on architecture, art and art industry.

H. W. Wilson Co., White Plains, N. Y.—Publications.

ERNEST J. REECE,
Secretary.

Illinois library trustees' association

The Illinois library trustees' association met in connection with the Illinois library association conference and held one session. Representatives were present from Ottawa, Versailles, Morris, Chicago, Dixon, Joliet and Springfield. Miss Price spoke briefly concerning the points at which Illinois library service could be improved.

The practices in book selection, work with children, taxes and budgets were discussed. It developed that some town councils still take control of the library funds, a practice which is clearly against the law on the subject.

Several committees, including a Legislative committee, to coöperate with the Illinois library association, were authorized, the president to appoint same. Officers were elected as follows: President, J. L. O'Donnell, Joliet; secretary-treasurer, J. B. Fithian, Joliet.

Illinois Library Notes

A public library has just been opened at Minonk. The town received some years ago by bequest from Mr David Filger a lot and \$20,000 for a library building and the dedicatory services were held October 10. Prominent citizens spoke of the value of a library when used by the people. Miss Edith Ford has been appointed librarian.

The new Carnegie-Brakefield building was opened to the public at Griggsville in October.

A new Carnegie building was opened at Chillicothe for the new township library in September. Miss Gladys Carol has been appointed librarian.

A new Carnegie building for the use of the new township library was dedi-

cated at Gilman in October. The library association established a library at Gilman in 1870. In 1912, it was given over to the city. Two years ago the people of the township voted a 2 mill tax and the city library was merged into the township library.

Immigration

Some books in the Birmingham public library:

General

- Antin. They who knock at our gates. 1914.
Barnes. The new America. 1913.
Commons. Races and immigrants in America. 1908.
Fairchild. Immigration. 1913.
Graham. With poor immigrants in America. 1914.
Jenks. Immigration problem.
Reely. Selected articles on immigration.
Ross. Old world in the new. 1914.
Steiner. The broken wall; stories of the mingling folk. 1911.
Steiner. Immigrant tide, its ebb and flow. 1909.
Steiner. On the trail of the immigrant. 1906.
Taft. "The United States and peace." 1914. Chap. 2.
Warne. Immigrant invasion. 1913.

German

- Faust. The German element in the U. S. 1909.

Japanese

- Gulick. American Japanese problem. 1914.
Iyenaga. Japan's real attitude toward America.
Kawakaim. Asia at the door. 1914.
Millis. Japanese problem in the U. S. 1915.
Russell. America to Japan: a symposium of papers by representative citizens. 1915.

Slavic

- Black. Our Slavic fellow citizens. 1910.
Roberts. The new immigration: a study of the industrial and social life of southwestern Europeans in America. 1912.

The personal service bureau of the *Mother's Magazine*, at Elgin, Illinois, is conducted by Miss René B. Stern, formerly librarian of the Chicago School of civics and philanthropy. Lists of books, courses of study, itineraries, etc., are laid out on request. The explanatory booklet says that no problem is too large and no problem is too small for answer and information. By simply enclosing a stamped self-addressed envelope to the *Mother's Magazine*, Elgin, Illinois, prompt response will be rendered.

Library Meetings

Chicago—The November meeting of the Chicago library club was held at the Virginia library of the McCormick Theological seminary, Miss Faith E. Smith, president, presiding. Dr McClure, president of the seminary, and Rev John F. Lyons, librarian, welcomed the club.

There was a very interesting debate on a union catalog of Chicago libraries. In the absence of Dr Andrews, librarian of the John Crerar library, Mr Barr read his paper, in which he suggested that the Library of Congress depositary catalog at the John Crerar library in which there are cards from five other libraries, might form the nucleus of such a union list. Dr Andrews thought it would not be necessary to make such a catalog complete, as anyone would naturally go for any subject to the library having that subject within its scope. Finally he suggested printing in book form a union list of rare books, which might be published in connection with a new edition of the Union list of serials in Chicago libraries.

Mr Hanson, of University of Chicago, said he wasn't sure whether it was Pliny or Cicero or some Babylonian scholar centuries before them, who first suggested a union catalog. And yet many professors and others suggest it as a new idea, originating with them. He spoke of the great demand there is at the University of Chicago for such a catalog, but thought that each library should get its own collections cataloged up to date before it put any time and money on a union catalog.

Miss Cora M. Gettys of the University of Chicago library said that the desirability of such a catalog was demonstrated almost daily, but that it should have a subject as well as an author side. What is needed is a union card catalog in a central place, but she was not prepared to say that it is practicable.

Mr Roden discussed the question from the standpoint of the Chicago public library, saying that the probable benefits

that would accrue from such a catalog to their constituency within the geographical limits of Chicago would not justify them in agreeing to assume the financial obligations of their share of the undertaking.

In speaking from the standpoint of the reference librarian, Mr Tweedell of the John Crerar library said that a union catalog by authors would be of little use. One like the Surgeon-General's catalog would be of much more service. He suggested that each library compile lists of material in their own collections on different subjects and exchange copies of such lists.

Mr Carleton, librarian of the Newberry library said that a perfect union catalog on cards is an ideal and therefore impossible of attainment. He was ready to welcome and file cards from other libraries for material complementary to that in the Newberry library, as a partial solution of the problem.

On motion a committee was appointed to consider the whole subject of a union catalog and to report by the end of the club season. D. ASHLEY HOOKER,

Colorado—The twenty-fifth anniversary of the organization of the Colorado library association was observed this year in its sessions held in Denver, November 2-3. From its small start, the association grew until as a section of the Colorado Teachers' association it reached a membership five years ago, including teachers, of 34, and this year as a separate organization, it has a paid membership of 64 librarians.

This year's anniversary program was devoted largely to a consideration of Colorado library needs and remedies, and proved what probably was the most discussed program the association has had.

"The need of a summer library school," was first presented by Rena Reese, assistant librarian of the Denver public library, who submitted the results of a questionnaire on this topic. She said the time has not arrived for the establishment of a regular library school in Colorado, but the time has come when Colorado should have some adequate opportunity for the librarian of a small library to secure standardized instruction

in library science. There is not a large public or institutional library in the state but has requests for help. Neither one can give what is needed, for the large public library with its departments and specialized workers, is beyond the scope of a small library, while the institutional library with its limited public, its highly specialized fields of intensive work, and its lack of social service, has not enough general problems to help the small library.

The need of "Legislative reference work in Colorado" was discussed by Dr J. Arnold Lien, assistant professor of political science at the University of Colorado. He called attention to the fact that legislators usually were inexperienced laymen and the reasons why their legislative output was severely criticised came partly from the fact that they were untrained in this work, and because of the immense volume of legislation placed before them. Many of the bills introduced, always more than a thousand, were beyond any legislator to handle. Dr Lien called attention to a number of public bills introduced in every legislature.

"We do not need a legislature of experts so much as an expert assistant for legislatures," he said. Information regarding various legislative matters must be provided, data must be collected before the legislature convenes, and a practical *bill drafter should be secured*. He urged that a legislative reference department be provided to work with the Colorado state library, in order to avoid the expense of duplicating library plants, as some states have done where the legislative reference department and the state library are separate institutions. He also urged the consolidation of the Colorado state library and the Colorado law library.

"The distribution of Colorado documents," was discussed by C. Henry Smith, librarian of the University of Colorado and president of the Colorado library association. He spoke of the defective conditions which make impossible the proper distribution of Colorado documents to Colorado libraries, since libraries get only surplus documents which are not distributed

elsewhere. This condition is inexcusable.

Miss Charlotte A. Baker, librarian of the State agricultural college, submitted an interesting statement regarding library salaries and qualifications with working conditions in Colorado libraries. She said two years ago a questionnaire was sent to every Colorado library, and 38 replies were received. This year a second questionnaire was sent out and 110 replies were received, which means that Colorado libraries are beginning to find themselves.

Her report showed that there were 43 cities and towns in Colorado with public libraries, and eight towns with library projects started; 39 libraries have a librarian, or one person in charge; four libraries are managed by women's clubs whose members in turn act as librarian; and public libraries in Colorado are open from one to seventy hours a week from one to seven nights.

There were 35 public libraries which reporting, stated that they had spent \$32,220 on books and periodicals during the year. These same libraries spent \$124,375 for their total expenses. This makes the "up-keep" cost 75 per cent of the income, while only 25 per cent of this income was spent for the purchase of books. The report showed that 37 public libraries have librarians in charge who have had at least high school education. Of the 14 educational libraries with librarians which reported, the "up-keep" cost was seven per cent over the amount spent for books. They are open from 30 to 80 hours a week. Forty-three high school and public school libraries reported.

In many small libraries in Colorado no vacations whatever are given the librarian. Miss Baker urged that the Library association write to presidents of Library boards where the library is open over 30 hours a week and where the librarian has no vacation, recommending that vacations be given as a business measure. "No person can be tied down to the same place day after day without falling into a rut. Where vacations are not granted, the libra-

rian, the library, and the town suffer from such short-sightedness."

She recommended also that the association work for a library law which would place the minimum salary of the librarian, paid out of public funds, at \$50 a month for 42 hours a week service, that such a worker should have at least two weeks' vacation with salary, that she be a graduate of a school with a rank of an accredited high school, that she have either six weeks' training at a summer school for librarians, or six months' apprentice training in a library of not less than 25,000 volumes, or in any library approved by the State library commission. If a small town has to pay its librarian less than \$50 a month, that less than 42 hours a week work be demanded.

In presenting the topic, "The growing need for a library extension worker," Chalmers Hadley of the Denver public library, declared that the great library need in Colorado was a personal touch in the state's library affairs. He urged that this be supplied by the employment of a trained library field worker to give assistance to communities, librarians, and library board members. He urged that definite library visiting be conducted by this field worker all over Colorado, and also that this worker act in an advisory capacity for the libraries in the various state institutions, which at present lack all library advice and assistance. Since the time and expense of librarians from the western state line to Denver equal the expense of a trip from Denver to Chicago, he urged that the state be divided into four districts—north, central, south, and west, for the purpose of library institutes, the same to be conducted by a field worker.

On Thursday evening, the librarians dined together. A great birthday cake bearing 25 candles for the association's anniversary, was brought in. It was filled with various objects which represented the type of response to be given, and much merriment was caused by the librarians who were called on. Following the dinner, all the visitors were guests

of the Denver public library at a theater party.

R. E. Wright, secretary of the Colorado survey commission and of the Civic and legislative bureau of the Denver commercial association, stated that a library survey of Colorado was planned for the future. He submitted a tentative outline of a proposed educational code for the state of Colorado. The librarians were concerned in this since among its various provisions were those for county librarians, the same to be under the State board of education. The proposed code gives the State board of education the right to supervise county district libraries, and gives the County superintendent of schools the power to nominate for appointment the county school district librarian. The code suggests that he be given direct supervision of the county district library.

In the discussion which followed the submission of this report, Mr Hadley of the Denver public library, objected to any survey touching library affairs without the coöperation and assistance of library workers. The value of school libraries was unquestioned, he said, but he objected to placing public library activities under the control of school officers, and also to spending public money for school libraries other than that provided for by the school tax. He believed that any additional money for library purposes, should be applied to the support of public libraries already in existence.

The objection to placing public library activities under school boards, he said, naturally did not come from any intentional antagonism from them, but was based on the fact that school boards do not give the attention to library affairs which they deserve, since they cannot do this and also conduct school activities, as they are supposed to do. Consequently, since the number of library employees is small and the money invested correspondingly so when compared to public schools, school boards are inclined to neglect library affairs in their attention to the larger school work.

Mr. Hadley said that many librarians

in libraries under school board control, were little more than clerks, that their attendance at a Board meeting was most uncertain, and that library affairs submitted to the Board consisted usually of presenting statistical reports which, with other library matters, were referred to a committee of the Board, and did not receive the undivided attention of the entire Board which the library's importance warranted. Public libraries under school boards in small cities where the library support was inadequate at most, have been obliged at times to spend too much for text books for teachers in the schools, which money should have come exclusively from the school fund.

The school domination over public libraries has gone so far in some cases as to result in school superintendents calmly appropriating the best quarters in a public library building for school offices, and obliging the librarian to accommodate himself to what was left. Another example of this disregard for public library rights is known to many librarians who were acquainted with the trained librarian of experience who worked vainly for two years under a school board and when she resigned had as her successor, in a city of ten thousand people, the library janitor duly appointed by the school board.

Mr Hadley said school teachers were the public library's staunchest supporters, but he did not consider them capable of handling library affairs with the same success that librarians have. He called attention to one city where 30,000 books had been placed in school buildings for school use. In a comparatively few years, he said these collections consisted of a depleted conglomeration of broken sets and unclassified and uncataloged books, locked in dusty cases. He objected to investing public funds for books which not only would be inaccessible to the adult public at all times, but also to school children on Saturdays, Sundays and during vacations.

He urged an amendment to the Colorado library law, providing for county support to public libraries in county seats, so that the library machinery and equipment already in existence might be ex-

tended and used for the benefit of the entire county, including schools, granges, study clubs and individuals at large.

Mrs Fannie M. Galloway, president of the Colorado traveling library commission, declared she would oppose any control of library affairs by school officers, because of the too frequent inefficiency of the ordinary school board.

Miss Charlotte A. Baker of Fort Collins, criticized the provision in the proposed code which did not require the county district librarian to have library training and experience.

Following the discussion, Mr Wright stated that he would recommend that all matters relating to library work over the state be submitted to library workers for their consideration, and he suggested that the Colorado library association appoint a committee from its membership to advise the survey commission in library affairs. The legislative committee of the association recommended to Mr Wright that the Survey commission advocate the consolidation of the Colorado state library, State supreme court library, Colorado traveling library commission, and the Colorado state board of library commissioners.

Miss Reese recommended, when the library survey was attempted, that this be conducted by library experts accredited by the American library association.

The rest of this third session of the association was devoted to interesting reviews of new books, given by Manly D. Ormes, librarian, Colorado college, Colorado Springs; Rebecca Day, librarian, Longmont public library; Edith Morgan, librarian, State normal school, Gunnison; Jean Macdonald, librarian, Boulder public library; Ethel Helm, librarian, La Junta public library; Quantrille McClung, librarian, Warren branch librav. Denver; Mary M. Weaver, librarian, Rocky Ford public library; Elizabeth Selleck, assistant, University of Colorado library; and Mrs Homer C. Cushman, assistant librarian, State teachers' college, Greeley.

The fourth session of the association was made delightful through the illustrated lecture given by Miss Harriet Vaille of Denver, on "The Indian lore of the Rocky Mountain Park region."

During the business meeting which followed the association voted to continue publishing the *Occasional Leaflet*. A motion was carried that the association's legislative committee prepare an amendment to the Colorado library law, providing for the taxing of county property outside of the county seat, and in towns lacking library facilities, the same to be applied to the county seat library on condition that it extend its activities throughout the county.

The following officers for the coming year were elected: President, Elma A. Wilson, librarian, Greeley public library; vice-president, Alice Lambert, librarian, Colorado state library; secretary and treasurer, Mrs Elizabeth Galbreath, librarian, Denver university. Members of executive committee, Rena Reese, Denver public library, and C. H. Smith, librarian, University of Colorado.

HELEN INGERSOLL,
Secretary.

District of Columbia—The regular meeting of the District of Columbia library association was held Wednesday evening, October 11, in the children's room of the Public library, the president, William A. Slade, in the chair.

The speaker of the evening was Dr Percy Hickling of Washington, who spoke upon the subject: "Mental hygiene for library workers." Dr Hickling began by stating that what he had to say applied to all those whose work is mainly mental, as no investigations had been made for library workers as a class, and no literature on the subject existed. He dwelt upon the need of proper physical conditions of living and working; mental adjustment to those with whom one works; necessity for recreation and rest and the danger of self-repression and of too great self-concentration.

He said further that the function of

the human mind is adjustment and that any friction or nervous tension in the performance of one's work indicates a lack of proper adjustment. That much harm is done by allowing such friction and nervous tension to continue without any attempt to check it; that in such cases a physician should be consulted as the condition is that of disease of a form that often leads to nervous breakdown and insanity. In spite of the fact that workers often allow such conditions to continue and become deep-seated before asking medical aid, 25 per cent of actual cases of insanity are cured within one year, while 40 per cent of nervous cases are prevented from developing into insanity.

ALICE C. ATWOOD,
Secretary.

Georgia—The eleventh meeting of the Georgia library association took place, October 17-18 in Atlanta. The first session was held on Tuesday afternoon, the meeting of the College and reference section in a round table discussion of college library problems. Miss Robbins, associate director of the Library school, Carnegie library of Atlanta, spoke on the printed aids issued by the H. W. Wilson Company. Miss Lucy E. Fay, librarian of the University of Tennessee, led the discussion of Instructing students in the use of the library. Miss Fay made the point that the college librarian should not have to give such instruction to students, as this training in the use of a library should have already been given in the high school. However, as high school libraries are practically non-existent in the South, the librarian of the college library must assume the work. Miss Fay urged the necessity for colleges to give credit for the course. R. M. Kennedy, librarian of the University of South Carolina, stated that such a credit course was being given in the University of South Carolina beginning this year. The course is to be required of all freshmen. Other subjects that came up for discussion were Handling of reserve books; The student assistant: Division

of funds; Coöperative periodical and society list; College library association of the Southeast; How to unearth the pamphlet; the decimal classification in a college library. Mr Duncan Burnet, librarian of the University of Georgia, suggested that the college librarians of the southeastern states meet possibly every two years as a sectional meeting of a state association, the meetings to rotate among the states represented. No definite action was taken on this suggestion.

The first general session was held in the evening in the Library School class room of the Carnegie library of Atlanta, with a number of invited guests present. Chancellor Barrow of the University of Georgia and president of the Library association, made a short address on the Influence of books. Asa G. Candler, mayor-elect of Atlanta, spoke briefly on the Place of the library in the community. The principal speaker of the evening was Dr Archibald Henderson of the University of North Carolina. Dr Henderson gave a brilliant address on the "Modern drama as a social force." After the formal program, an informal reception was held.

The third session was held on Wednesday morning in the library exhibit of the Southeastern fair which was being held during the week of October 16. Miss Minnie Leatherman, secretary of the North Carolina library commission, spoke on How to meet the library needs of the farm. Miss Leatherman described the work being done by the North Carolina library commission through its traveling libraries, package libraries and debate collections. Mrs J. K. Ottley, chairman of the Georgia library commission, presented the Work and needs of the Georgia library commission. Mrs Ottley described briefly the work the commission had done for library development in Georgia since its establishment 19 years ago, and pointed out the fact that though the commission had never had an appropriation from the state for carrying on its work, yet it had been possible

for it to perform to a very full degree its prescribed functions through the courtesy of the Carnegie library of Atlanta. Mrs Ottley stated that the commission had not been able to undertake some very important features of commission work and would not be able to do so until a state appropriation was obtained. Mrs Ottley emphasized the need of traveling libraries in the state where 80% of the population was rural and consequently must look to the state for books. She outlined the proposed legislation which the commission will present at the next meeting of the state legislature covering the following points: 1) a paid trained organizer to carry on the work outlined by the commission; 2) an appropriation from the state adequate to carry on the work; 3) power to establish and maintain a system of traveling libraries. At the conclusion of Mrs Ottley's talk, Mrs F. O. Foster introduced the following resolution which was adopted:

Whereas, Though the State library commission has accomplished much for library development in the state, there is still much to be done that can be done only by direct state aid, therefore

Resolved, That the Georgia library association go on record as favoring the proposed legislation of the commission calling for a trained paid organizer and for the establishment and maintenance of a system of traveling libraries.

Resolved, That the members of the association use their influence with their representatives in the legislature for the passage of this measure.

Lucy E. Fay next presented the subject of the Development of school libraries in the South. Miss Fay gave the results of a survey that had been made which showed the need of an active campaign for better school libraries and looked forward to the time when a well equipped and well conducted library would be considered as necessary for accredited secondary schools as laboratory equipment for the study of the sciences. Miss Fay pointed out the fact that at present the statement of the requirement was not specific enough, being limited to the general statement of an "adequate library."

Mr C. Seymour Thompson, librarian of the Savannah public library, spoke next on Labor-saving devices for librarians, and named those devices that should be within the reach of the average library.

An interesting feature of the meeting was the inspection of the library exhibit of the Fair which had been prepared as one of the exhibits in the Liberal Arts building by Mrs F. O. Foster. In the exhibit were shown a model children's room with suitable furniture, books, pictures, etc., and a general collection of library supplies, equipment, furniture, etc. The Fair was visited by 164,000 people from many states so that the library exhibit gave wide publicity to the subject of libraries.

The last session was held on Wednesday afternoon in the Carnegie library and was devoted to the problems of public libraries. Carl H. Milam, director of the Birmingham (Ala.) public library, spoke on Publicity methods for public libraries. Mr Milam gave some of the methods that had been successfully employed in popularizing the library in Birmingham. He emphasized the value of studying the business and industrial interests of a community and having a liberal supply of books on the interests represented. The use of printed lists for mailing and newspaper articles and lists was emphasized. Miss McMillan of Chattanooga read a paper on County library extension, describing the system as Chattanooga had developed it. The subject provoked considerable discussion, as many of the Georgia towns are considering this system.

Mr Milam brought a message from the Texas library association, from which he had just returned, asking for the coöperation of the Georgia library association in presenting to the executive board of the American library association the matter of a meeting of the American library association being held in the South. The following committee was appointed to make a statement to the executive board: Mr C.

Seymour Thompson, Miss Susie Lee Crumley, Mrs F. O. Foster.

The attendance register indicated that 11 public libraries in Georgia were represented at the meeting and eight college libraries; also the State library and the Fulton County law library; there were present also two librarians from Tennessee, two from North Carolina, one from Florida, one from Alabama, one from South Carolina.

The association accepted the invitation of Mr Thompson to meet in Savannah in 1917. The following officers were elected: President, Dr David C. Barrow, chancellor of the University of Georgia; vice-president, Duncan Burnet, librarian, University of Georgia; H. H. Stone, librarian, Emory college, Oxford; Mrs Eugene B. Heard, Middleton; C. Seymour Thompson, librarian, Savannah public library; secretary, Miss Tommie Dora Barker, librarian, Carnegie library of Atlanta.

TOMMIE DORA BARKER,
Secretary.

Massachusetts—The Bay Path library club held its autumn meeting at the Bigelow public library, Clinton, Mass., on October 26.

An interesting report of the M. L. C. meeting at Greenfield was read by Miss Alice G. Chandler.

The round table of new books conducted by Miss Mabel E. Knowlton of Shrewsbury brought many valuable books to the attention of those present.

A question box in charge of Miss Edith M. Gates of Worcester brought out many questions, and a general discussion of library problems.

Mr J. Randolph Coolidge of Boston was the speaker of the day, and his talk on "The growth of an interest in books" was most inspiring. Mr Coolidge had a very practical message for librarians which was received with keen interest.

The club voted to establish a traveling library of juvenile books to be circulated under the direction of the Woman's Education association.

FLORENCE E. WHEELER,
Secretary.

Massachusetts.—The Massachusetts library club held its autumn meeting of 1916 at Greenfield, October 19-21. This was a union meeting of the New Hampshire library association with the Massachusetts and Western Massachusetts library clubs.

At the first session, Charles R. Green, librarian of the Massachusetts Agricultural library, spoke on agricultural literature, and told what the state furnishes free.

"The possibilities of contagion in the circulation of library books," was the subject of an address by Dr Walter H. Brown, of the Massachusetts department of health. Dr Brown stated that the possibility of transmission of disease through library books is practically nil. To support this point of view the speaker enumerated some of the results obtained through careful experiments made at Baltimore and confirmed by an important hygiene worker in Paris. He considered that there was no justification for the burning of books that had been in houses where there have been communicable diseases. The disinfection of books was considered of doubtful value. "There is no adequate way at the present time to disinfect a book," Dr Brown maintained, "without ruining the book." It was considered that the storage of books is the most that Boards of Health can reasonably ask. Storage of books for four months was held to be sufficient. Dr Brown did not wish to have his remarks apply to tuberculosis or infantile paralysis. He did not care to be considered an alarmist but in the matter of tuberculosis he thought there is a very definite risk when it comes to sending books to people with this disease. He thought every precaution should be exercised. In answer to a question Dr Brown said that there is still a lack of definite information on infantile paralysis but that if books had actually been handled by patients afflicted with the disease, the books had better be destroyed.

The session on Friday morning was in charge of the Western Massachu-

setts library club. Mr William C. Stone presided. Mr James A. Moyer, director of the University Extension department of Massachusetts spoke on "University extension and public libraries." Mr Moyer outlined, with some detail, the nature of the extension work and the large field offered to public libraries in its development.

Edward F. Stevens, librarian of the Pratt Institute free library, spoke on the subject, "Technical literature for the average library." Mr Stevens outlined a plan, now under consideration, for the Pratt Institute free library to compile quarterly lists of the best new technical books, the lists to be printed by the H. W. Wilson Company and made available to libraries at nominal cost. It is proposed that the lists shall be issued in leaflet form and include each time a dozen or fifteen titles such as the average library would buy.

Following Mr Stevens' paper, there was a series of brief talks on "Technical books: What to buy and how to advertise them." Miss Ella Sawyer, of Worcester, Miss Hazel Benjamin, of Easthampton, Miss F. Mabel Winchell, of Manchester, N. H., Mr George L. Lewis, of Westfield, Miss Mabel Temple, of North Adams, and Mr William C. Stone, of Springfield, were the speakers.

The session on Friday evening was in charge of the New Hampshire library association, Miss Lucina Saxton, of Keene, presiding. In the paper "An architect's library" Mr Robert S. Peabody gave an account of some architectural books of outstanding value and interest. It was an agreeable picture that Mr Peabody gave of the architect's happy moments among his morocco backed friends.

N. L. Goodrich, librarian of the Dartmouth College library, read a paper on "The literature of mountaineering; an essay in passionate bibliography."

At the session on Saturday morning, Miss Cora F. Stoddard, secretary of the Allied Temperance Organizations of Massachusetts, read a paper on the

"Literature of the alcohol question." A considerable number of books were mentioned with special reference to their suitability for general library use. The program was concluded with a paper on "Books for business men," by Mr Ralph L. Power, librarian of the Boston University college of business.

FRANK H. WHITMORE,
Recorder.

Michigan.—The twenty-sixth annual meeting of the Michigan library association was held in Lansing, October 10-12, 1916. There were 150 registrations. The representation from the smaller libraries was especially gratifying, and is a most potent testimonial to the splendid work of the library visitor. The larger libraries were remarkably well represented, there being 43 from the Detroit public library, 11 from the University of Michigan library, 10 from the Grand Rapids public library, nine from the Jackson public library, and six from the Kalamazoo public library.

All the meetings were held in the Senate chamber of the State capitol, and the dignity and friendliness of the room added to the success of the meeting.

After the reports of officers and committees a discussion of work with foreigners ensued. Mrs E. S. Grierson of the Public library of the Calumet and Hecla Mining Co., Calumet, discussed "What the library can do for the foreigners." She showed very clearly how alone the foreigner is when he comes to this country, ignorant of our manners and customs and of our language, and what a wonderful thing it is for him when he finds books and magazines in his own tongue in the public library.

Mr Novak, principal of the Northeastern high school, Detroit, gave a most inspiring address on "The foreigner and the schools." He brought out very vividly the fact that while just living in America is a good deal for the foreigner, an immense amount of work has still to be done before he will be-

come an integral part of our civilization.

At the evening session, the association was addressed by Governor Woodbridge N. Ferris and Edgar A. Guest of the Detroit *Free Press*. Governor Ferris talked of the "Library and the school or the school and the library." His talk was most stimulating and for the moment at least filled everyone with the determination to take his advice and go home and read one great book a month, though his advice supposedly applied to students not librarians!

Mr Guest's topic was "Column conducting on a Michigan newspaper," but as he himself said, he kept as far away from it as possible. Mr Guest's readings from his own poems were delightful and his personality added greatly to the charm of the occasion.

Wednesday morning was left free for visits to the different State departments and the State and City libraries. The association enjoyed an automobile ride to the Michigan agricultural college, where they had the opportunity of visiting the College library, and were entertained at a light luncheon in the Woman's building.

At noon the entire association was entertained at a luncheon by the State library, the Lansing City and Michigan Agricultural college libraries.

The Wednesday afternoon session was devoted to work with children. Three excellent papers were given as follows: "Current comment relative to library work with children," Miss Mary Conover, chief, intermediate division, Public library, Detroit; "Good pictures for the decoration of children's rooms," Miss Lida Clark, department of art, State Normal college, Ypsilanti; "Children's books—Twenty years ago and today," by Miss May Massee, editor of the *A. L. A. Booklist*.

William Warner Bishop, librarian, University of Michigan, gave the address at the evening meeting. His subject, "Large library buildings: an American contribution to architecture,"

was presented in a most delightful way. He traced very clearly the development of the modern large library, illustrating his points with stereopticon pictures of both good and bad architecture from the librarian's viewpoint. The pictures were unusually good and added greatly to the interest of the evening.

At the Thursday morning session the association was favored with short talks by some of the state officers. President F. S. Kedzie of the Michigan agricultural college, spoke of the college and some of its problems. Dean Robert S. Shaw, director of the Experiment station, talked of the Experiment station publications, their history, classification and distribution. A. C. Carton, secretary of the Public domain commission, described the work of that commission and spoke of some of its publications. John T. Winship, State insurance commissioner, spoke most convincingly and earnestly on the subject of fire prevention, and recommended one or two books which every library should have on its shelves. State publications, which are always a mystery to the layman, were discussed by Miss Olive C. Lathrop of the Legislative reference department. She described in a very lucid way the different publications which the State issues and pointed out their library value. She also spoke of the different departments which issue the publications, and made clear the methods of distribution. There was also a report from the State federation of women's clubs on the library extension work of the federation, by Mrs E. A. Gilkey of Lansing.

At the business meeting on Thursday morning, the reports of committees were acted upon. Officers were elected as follows: President, Miss Katharine Sleneau, Public library, Port Huron; first vice-president, F. L. D. Goodrich, University library, Ann Arbor; second vice-president, Miss Adah Shelly, Public library, Sault Ste. Marie; secretary, Miss Constance Bement, State library, Lansing; treasurer,

Miss Elizabeth Pomeroy, Public library, Armada.

CONSTANCE BEMENT,

Minnesota—The Twin City library club held its annual fall dinner with the Division of Public School libraries of the Minnesota educational association on the evening of November 2, 1916, in St. Paul, Minn. The toastmistress was Miss Alice N. Farr of the State normal school, Mankato. She introduced C. G. Schultz, State superintendent of public instruction, who gave a short address of welcome.

He was followed by Miss Hazeltine of the Wisconsin library school who emphasized the idea that the "teacher-librarian" or the librarian in the public school should be the connecting link between the school and the public library, two of the magic forces in the life of any community.

Miss Curtis of the Illinois library school spoke of the necessity of a librarian becoming better known throughout her community as the library was the "and Company" of every enterprise started in the community.

Mr George H. Locke, librarian of the Toronto public library gave a very interesting talk on library work in Toronto and Canada and told of the great help the library institutes or round tables had been in arousing library interest throughout the rural districts of Canada.

Miss Baldwin of the Public library commission hoped that library boards could be prevailed upon to ask for larger appropriations for the library,—commensurate with the growth and improvements in other departments of the town's activities.

Dr Johnston of St. Paul, as the last speaker of the evening invited all those present to visit the new building of the St. Paul public library.

At the close of the program the following officers for the coming year were elected: President, Dr Solon J. Buck; vice-president, Miss Augusta Starr; secretary-treasurer, Miss Amy Cowley.

ETHEL S. BERRY,
Secretary.

New York—At the October meeting of the New York library club resolutions on the death of Miss Plummer were adopted. The memorial set out the various positions held by Miss Plummer in her library career and gave high appraisal of her contributions to the development of library work and to the high ideals which she inculcated into the minds of her students.

The subject for discussion in the meeting was library commission work. Mr F. D. Belden, State librarian of Massachusetts, spoke of the work of the library commission in that state.

J. I. Wyer changed his topic from library commission work to library extension and compared the work of the library in the city with the library in the country. Miss Askew, New Jersey, spoke in her usual delightful way of the work that had been done in her own state, illustrating by personal incidents which threw much local color on her endeavors.

North Dakota—The eleventh annual meeting of the North Dakota library association was held in Williston, October 26-28. The meeting was small but this did not lessen the spirit and did encourage a new intimacy and a free exchange of personal experience.

Miss Jeannette Drake of Sioux City was the principal speaker and every one responded to her magnetic "aliveness." She spoke on "The library in social service" and contributed generously to all round tables.

Both public and institutional librarians urged the simplification of records and the elimination of all possible red tape. North Dakota is young enough not to be bound by the bugaboo "precedent" and so is free to eliminate.

The association was much interested in three sets of architect's plans for libraries, one the usual conventional plan, one for a corner entrance, and one for a two-story small foundation building.

In the book symposium, biography was most frequently reported on, probably because North Dakota is still in the construction stage and the re-

counts of men and women who have done something appeal.

The following officers were elected: President, Alfred Steel, Jamestown; vice-president, Nellie Olson, Mayville; secretary-treasurer, Winnie Bucklin, Fargo.

The association voted to meet in Valley City in 1917.

Ohio—The twenty-fifth annual session of the Ohio library association was held at Cincinnati, October 3-5. The general meetings were held in the assembly rooms of the Hotel Gibson, though other meetings were held at various places throughout the week.

The afternoon of October 3 was given up to visits to the branch libraries of Cincinnati by trolley under the direction of the public library authorities, and was thoroughly enjoyed by the large number who went. The first session opened promptly with Miss Laura Smith, assistant to the librarian of the Public library of Cincinnati, as president. The address of welcome was made by N. D. C. Hodges, librarian, Public library of Cincinnati, and responded to by C. W. Reeder, Ohio State university library.

The president in her address urged librarians to a larger understanding of the library, its needs and its place in the community, and of the relations of the obligations of the librarian in whatever conditions existed. She illustrated this by the title of her address, "Rivers are only the water that runs." Success in any undertaking is only the accumulative results of endeavor.

Mr Clyde W. Park, president of the Ohio State library commission, who is also connected with the University of Cincinnati, gave a most inspiring talk on the future of the library commission, pointing out what the commission hoped to do for the betterment of conditions, not only in the State library but in its relations to other libraries in the state. Mr Park reasonably appealed for sympathetic cooperation on the part of the libraries of the state that want more cordial support from the library factors of Ohio.

The address of the evening was given by Miss M. E. Ahern. It was an exposition on the moral obligation resting on librarians, who ought to be thoroughly intelligent on and studiously interested in the books which form the foundation of libraries for the use of all classes of people; the necessity of knowing library machinery so well that there will be little delay in bringing to the notice of the people the books that belong to them. With a number of illustrations, the question, Why should one who does not read herself stand up and advise reading for other people, was answered. Librarians from library schools, who go into small communities, were especially urged to give to those communities the advantage of the librarian's wider horizon and experience, and to move away the barriers of time and space in introducing to the communities, books which deal with the activities and interests of the rest of the world.

Wednesday morning was given up largely to a business meeting where the reports of the various committees were received. Mr J. Howard Dice, organizer for the Ohio state library, told of the work that had been done during the past year.

The address of the morning was given by Adeline B. Zachert, head of the children's department and work with schools, Public library, Rochester, New York. Miss Zachert, in her usual happy manner, proved the truth of the need of more care in choosing books for children. She urged that larger acquaintance with the child be developed, its home environment, school activities, social tendencies, ambitions and deficiencies be considered, and all be met as far as possible, with the particular books needed by the particular groups. She insisted on close coöperation but warned librarians against assuming duties which clearly belonged to the school authorities or other authorities interested in the welfare of children.

Story telling was most interestingly treated by Miss Edna Seybold of Cin-

cinnati. Miss Seybold seems little more than a child herself, but showed herself a successful story-teller as well as being intelligent in her understanding of the principles and aims of story-telling.

Wednesday afternoon was most delightfully spent in an automobile tour of the parks and suburbs of Cincinnati. The visitors thoroughly enjoyed the ride through the gloriously beautiful forests decked out in their autumn foliage and everything conspired to make the afternoon an occasion to remember. A fitting close to the afternoon was a tea, which was most generously and hospitably served at the beautiful home of Mr and Mrs Hodges in Glendale. It was a red letter occasion for many of the visitors, leaving a beautiful memory of their visit to Cincinnati.

The evening session was held in the auditorium of the Hebrew Union college. A program of songs by Miss Alma Beck, accompanied by Mrs Abner Thorpe, Jr., was given. Miss Beck has a voice of singular sweetness and beauty of tone, and was ably assisted by her accompanist. This was one of the joys of the meeting.

Dr Arthur Bostwick of St. Louis public library gave the address on "Two cardinal sins." One was the sin of letting the progress of the world's activities and its ideals, as recorded in the printed page, pass by unheeded. The other was using the ability to read without gaining anything mentally or spiritually from the exercise.

Herbert S. Hirshberg, librarian of the Public library of Toledo, told the story of the popularizing campaign opened in Toledo last spring, and illustrated his remarks with the stereopticon. (See P. L., 21:220-223.)

Howard B. Sohn gave an interesting report from the publicity committee on the various plans which had been found successful in directing attention to library service.

After the close of the program, a most enjoyable hour was spent as the guests of the college faculty, its libra-

rian, Mr Oko, and his charming wife.

The session on Thursday morning opened with a most inspiring address by Miss Anna E. Logan, assistant superintendent of schools in Cincinnati, on "What the teacher expects from the library." Miss Logan generously said that the library had already given so much to the teachers and the teachers' contributions had been so small that it was selfish to ask for more until between them they arrive at a better understanding each of the other. She urged the librarians to be patient with the backwardness of the teachers, even though the librarians had to move more than half way to meet them.

Elizabeth K. Steele, librarian, Lorain public library, asked that the teachers keep the library informed of their needs in advance of the occasion when help is expected, meet in consultation on the common problems, and to credit the library with having an educational mission in the work it was doing.

Some delightful modern poetry was presented by Miss Sophie Collmann of Cincinnati in tracing the development of the awakening interest in that form of literature.

"Some recent books of interest" were discussed by Mr Clarence D. Stevens of the university of Cincinnati. A question box by Miss Mary E. Downey closed the session.

The afternoon was spent in trolley rides, given by the Chamber of Commerce, to the Rookwood pottery, the Art museum and the Zoological gardens.

The library school dinner with a number of distinguished guests was held at the Hotel Gibson, where short addresses were made by various members of the library schools represented.

The address of the evening, given by Prof Stevens of University of Cincinnati, was an illustrated one on the Canterbury tales. The speaker was most illuminating in relating the customs and manners of the times depicted in the tales as told by the various members of the pilgrimage. The pic-

tures shown on the screen added much to the pleasure of the address.

The county library movement of California was presented by Joseph L. Wheeler of Youngstown by means of stereopticon views which were used at the Panama-Pacific Exhibition last year.

Toledo was chosen as the place of the next convention.

Miss Alice Tyler, Cleveland, was elected president; Joseph L. Wheeler, Youngstown, first vice president; Lillian Robb, Toledo, second vice president; Grace Steel, Lorain, third vice president; Marie Brown, Conneaut, secretary, and Julia Wright Merrill, Cincinnati, treasurer.

The college section held two sessions where various questions of interest were discussed. Basis of appropriation of library funds by Dr A. S. Root, Union catalog of periodicals, C. W. Reeder, Relation of college library to normal schools, S. J. Brandenburg, Cooperation between colleges and bookmen in book recommendations, A. S. Oko, were discussed. The advantage of holding the meetings of the college librarians in conjunction with the Ohio colleges rather than with librarians received serious attention.

Pennsylvania—The Monongahela Valley library association held a meeting Tuesday, September 26, in the Carnegie free library, Duquesne, Pa., W. F. Stevens, librarian of Carnegie library, Homestead, presiding, and decided to discontinue as a formal organization. Neighborhood meetings will be held during the year instead.

LUELLA M. STEVENSON,
Secretary.

A straight out presentation of the value of library service to business men, municipal officers and employes and to all intelligent workers of every class was printed on a postal size card by the St Louis public library. Then, 5,000 copies were sent by courtesy of the City club, the Civic league, and the Business Men's league with their regular communications to their members.

Interesting Things in Print

The Worcester free library has issued a selected list of dog stories.

The Town Criers club of St. Paul has issued a list of business books in the interests of the Business men's division of the St. Paul public library.

A report on the library situation of Mississippi by Whitman Davis, librarian of Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical college, has been issued as Bulletin No. 3, V. 13, of that institution.

A collection of the vocabulary of the Indians of the northwest coast of America in the year 1871 is presented in the proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society, v. 26, part 1.

Among the reprints of the reports and addresses of the National conference of charities and corrections is an address by E. Kathleen Jones, librarian of McLean hospital, Waverly, Mass., on Importance of organizing libraries in institutions. It forms No. 74 of the reprints.

An interesting publication of the St. Louis public library is the report on the work of the binding department under the title of, New books for old, by Mary E. Wheelock, chief of the binding department.

A more than ordinarily interesting book list has been issued by the City library of Springfield, Mass., entitled, "Confessions." It includes the diaries and autobiographies of a number of the world's greatest men.

"Pittsburgh in 1816" is a pamphlet of 75 pages, compiled by the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, on the one hundredth anniversary of the creating of the city charter. It contains a description and narrative of the founding of the city, illustrated by cuts showing places, customs and people of that early period.

F. K. W. Drury, of the University of Illinois, has compiled 299 short stories, arranged by language, using the scheme of omitting the three hundredth story, so that at least one of the personal favorites may be included. The list was printed in

the *English Bulletin* for May, 1916, but the library of the University of Illinois has a small edition for distribution.

The *Philippine Review* is a magazine published in English and Spanish, monthly, in Manila. The first volume is closing with the year, and has kept up the purpose for which the *Review* stands—"for the sympathetic union of all English and Spanish speaking countries, to serve unbiased information about the Philippines, and to correct wrongful ideas about the country and its people." The motto is "Service to the country and humanity."

The John Crerar library has issued in pamphlet form, "Cataloging rules," in use in that institution. Blank pages alternate with those printed, so that any additional notes may be included in the collection. These rules are said to be "supplementary to the Cataloging rules, author and title entries, compiled by the American library association, and the British library association, American edition, Boston, 1908, with supplementary cataloging rules issued on cards, by the Library of Congress."

The *Mexican Review* is a journal devoted to "the enlightenment of the American people in respect to the hopes, ambitions, beneficent intentions and accomplishments of the constitutional government of the Republic of Mexico," to set before the thoughtful reading public of the United States, the case of Mexico. Its object is to create the spirit of neighborliness, which has been a rare factor in Mexico-American relations.

The earnest hope is that careful, truthful, and at the same persistent statements of Mexican hopes, ambitions, their intentions and accomplishments, will bring home to the people of the United States that the Republic of Mexico is worthy of that consideration and respect which the people of the North are so ready to extend. The review will have no political or sectarian bias.

The Public library, Birmingham, Alabama, has issued a classified list of books on Sunday school work for the officers and teachers on the international lessons.

Library Schools

Carnegie library school

Miss Sarah B. Askew lectured to the school, October 19-21. Her subjects were: What makes library work a success, Library extension and Commission work.

Miss Anna MacDonald, of the Pennsylvania free library commission, gave a talk on the work of the commission, November 6.

Students in the senior class are required to visit each week some Pittsburgh institution engaged in social work. These visits are made in connection with the course in Modern social movements conducted by Miss Adah Hopkins, head of the Department of social work, Margaret Morrison Carnegie school, Pittsburgh.

Junior students began their practice work, November 13. Each student is scheduled for two periods.

The students living at the Students' house were hostesses at a Halloween party, October 31, to which the students living outside the house were invited.

Margaret Jean Clay, '14-15, has been appointed head of the children's department of the Public library, Victoria, B. C., Canada.

Mary Willson Eccles, '15-16, has been made assistant in the children's department, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Margaret Lathrop, '10-11, was married to Andrew P. McConnell July 10, 1916.

Harriet Marie McClure, special student '12-13, has resigned her position of children's librarian of the Lincoln library, Springfield, Illinois.

Dorothy Rowe, '09-10, has resigned as librarian of the American Appraisal Company, Milwaukee, Wis.

Virginia Slagle, '14-15, has resigned her position as assistant-in-charge of Schools division, Public library, Tacoma, Wash., to become assistant reference librarian of the State university, Pullman, Wash.

Edna Sophia Smith, '09-10, has resigned her position of children's librarian in the Brooklyn public library to become business secretary of the Y. W. C. A., Watertown, New York.

SARAH C. N. BOGLE,
Principal.

New York public library

For the seniors in the Administration course, a series of talks on Branch library administration has been added. As given the present year, the series includes talks on General administration of branches; Problems of the branch librarian; The work of the first assistant; Correlation of children's and adult work; Reference and reserve work in the branch; Schedules; Work with foreigners; and Work with schools. The speakers have been selected because of special success in the work covered by the topic upon which they speak.

Miss Annie Carroll Moore has begun her series of conferences upon Children's work and Book selection for children's libraries with the seniors of the Administration and the School and college courses.

The advanced reference and cataloging seniors have enjoyed four lectures by Miss Henrietta C. Bartlett on Bibliographical cataloging.

Miss Ida M. Mendenhall, librarian of the Geneseo State normal school, has just finished a course of four lectures on the Normal school library before the seniors in the School and college course.

Miss Elizabeth C. Stevens is now giving a course on Historic book-bindings.

Special lectures before the juniors have been:

October 23. E. H. Anderson. The New York public library.

October 27. F. W. Jenkins. The library as a civic factor.

November 1. H. Rosenthal. The golden age of Russian literature.

November 6. Dr H. M. Leipziger. Public school extension.

November 8. Mme. B. de Baralt. Spanish-American literature.

Miss Maire Kelly has returned to the school and should be added to the list of seniors taking the advanced reference and cataloging course.

The annual report of the school, just issued, contains the following paragraphs concerning Miss Plummer:

Although the death of Miss Plummer, which occurred at Dixon, Illinois, on September 21, came after the close of the year covered by this report, yet it seems only

fitting that with this record of her final year of service to the school there should also be included mention of her death and an expression of appreciation of her work for the school.

To the New York library school, Miss Plummer brought a large experience in library work and many years of practice in training library workers. She brought, also, keen insight into the problems of the library world and the vision to see what developments were likely to take place in the future. She was one of the first to see the importance of work with children and many of the best workers in this field were led to take up that from of library work through her influence. The work with high school libraries, too, was in no small degree the result of her suggestions. Because of this farsightedness and her understanding of library problems, she was unusually equipped to plan and develop a new library school.

To these qualities, Miss Plummer added a mature and well-balanced judgment of people and of the situation in which they could work to the best advantage. This made it possible for her to recommend the right person for any given situation, an invaluable quality in one at the head of a school. As a consequence of this gift, she possessed the confidence of the librarians of the country in an unusual degree.

Her personality added greatly to her other elements of strength; courage, fidelity to truth, and independence were blended with rare love of beauty, delicacy of feeling and fine scholarship. All this gave her power as a teacher and as an inspirer of youth.

These qualities enabled her in the brief five years in which she was permitted to be in charge of the school, to establish it upon broad foundations and with high ideals. Keenly realizing what loss has come to the school in her death, her associates in the work can only endeavor to carry it on in the same large minded way and with an equally farsighted vision of the needs of the library world.

AZARIAH S. ROOT,
Principal.

New York state library

The students' "Round Table" has planned a series of meetings devoted to a discussion of English and Continental library administration. The program as at present planned follows:

November 14, England, Misses Cudebec, Adams and Wilcox; December 12, Germany, Misses Harris, Dorrance and Santes; January 9, France, Mr Hodgson; February 13, Italy, Dr. Mariotti; April 17, Russia, Misses Sauer and Gins-

burg; May 8, Scandinavia, Mr Johansen and Misses Neumann and Schaanning.

Lectures by other than faculty members have been given by Dr Sherman Williams, chief of the School Libraries division; R. T. Congdon, assistant in charge of field work for the Examinations division; Miss Martha C. Pritchard of the Geneseo Normal School library, and Miss Lutie E. Stearns. The first three formed a part of the series of appointments on work with schools, Dr Sherman Williams speaking of the elementary school library, Mr Congdon describing the work of the high-school library as seen by the teacher, and Miss Pritchard speaking from her experience as a high school librarian. Miss Stearns spoke on "The library and the new democracy." Her talk was a plea to extend the work of the library beyond the conventional limits into all fields of social life.

Asa Don Dickinson '03 talked to the school on October 4 on opportunities for American librarians in foreign libraries. Mr Dickinson's experience in organizing the University of Lahore library and his observations of libraries visited in a trip around the world have convinced him that American methods of library organization are easily the best and that, particularly in the British Colonies, Japan and China, and possibly Latin America there should be excellent opportunities at the close of the war for Americans trained in library methods.

Mr William R. Eastman has again taken charge of the course in library buildings. In 1915-16, this course was considerably changed because of the failure of the legislature to provide funds. Mr. Eastman, for the first time in many years, gave only part of the work of the course, although he generously contributed two lectures of the series.

Clara V. Barber, '12-13, was married November 9 to Dr Harold L. Palmer of the State hospital at Utica, N. Y.

F. K. WALTER.

Pratt institute

A reception of the Graduates' association to the class of 1917 was held on November 2. In the 90 present every class except 1899 and 1907 was represented. The class of 1915 was the banner class, while the attendance of the class of 1898 equaled that of 1916. The latter class held an informal reunion at which letters were read from many of the scattered members.

The School has recently been making a little investigation of the professional activities of its graduates. Sixty-five per cent of the active graduate body belongs to the A. L. A.; over one-half of the A. L. A. members attended the meeting at Asbury Park. Four of our graduates are presidents of state associations, one of a local club, and 10 or 12 are acting as secretaries and treasurers of state organizations.

The class of 1917 has elected as president Miss Florence Dewey, who was formerly children's librarian of the Public library at Waterloo, Iowa, and as secretary-treasurer Frank V. Anderson of Portland, Oregon.

The organization meeting of the Library chapter of Neighborhood association was held on October 31, in the classroom. The chapter takes an active interest in the music library of the Greenpoint Settlement music school, and Miss Gibbes, the director, was present at the meeting and gave an informal talk on the work of the school. The following officers were elected: President, Miss Helen McCracken; vice-president, Miss Elin J. Lindgren; secretary-treasurer, Miss Jessie M. Hutchinson, both of the library staff.

Lena G. Towsley, '13, has been made an assistant in Clark College library, Worcester, Mass.

Rosamond McIntosh, '14, has resigned her position as branch librarian in the New Haven public library and has accepted the first assistantship in one of the branches of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Dorothy Bemis, '16, has accepted a position in the children's department of the George Bruce branch of the New York public library.

Helen Crowe, '16, who returned on graduation to the staff of the Chicago public

library, has resigned to accept a position as cataloger in the library of the Chicago art institute.

Edwina F. Glenn, '16, has been appointed to the grade of senior assistant in the Rivington Street branch of the New York public library.

Estelle L. Liebmann, '16, is doing temporary work at the library of the American Geographical society of New York City.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,
Vice-director.

Simmons college

We congratulated ourselves a little too soon last month on a propitious beginning of the college year, for on October 10, a case of infantile paralysis developed in one of the dormitory students, though not a library school girl, and the corporation decided to quarantine that group of dormitories as an extraordinary precaution, though it was not required by the Boston board of health.

Fortunately the patient was treated so early that serious consequences have not resulted and no other case developed, but as the college exercises were carried on as usual for all not quarantined it was something of a problem to restore smooth articulation in the classes, in many of which the absence had been as high as 50 per cent when the two weeks quarantine was over.

The following lectures were recently given: Miss Stearns, The library and the ideal democracy; Mr J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr., Library architecture from the architect's point of view. By the courtesy of the Boston public library, Miss Blunt was enabled to give one of her lessons on binding in the library, surrounded by an exhibit they had been so good as to arrange for us.

The Brookline public library has presented the school with various bound volumes of the *Publishers' Weekly*, a number of unbound bibliographical publications, and about 20 books illustrating points in the binding course.

Della Dunmore, special, '15-16, has been appointed assistant in the Women's Educational and Industrial Union, Boston.

Rowena Edwards, special, '14-15, has been promoted, in the Iowa State Teachers' College library, to have charge of the catalog department.

Mary Nimms, '16, has been appointed children's librarian in the Public library, Watertown, Mass.

Ruth Parker, '14, is doing a piece of work for the Library Bureau.

Lois Rankin, '14-15, has been given charge of a branch of the Public library, Memphis, Tenn.

Theresa Stuart, '08, is cataloging a private library.

Florence Sutherland, '08, has recently been certified by the civil service of California on the list for county librarians.

May Twitchell, '16, is cataloging, temporarily, for the Massachusetts state library.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY,

Director.

Syracuse university

An important change

After a thorough test of two years the faculty has abandoned an experimental scheme in the distribution of recitations from which only good results were expected. Work which formerly had been given in classes meeting two or three times a week during a semester was condensed into periods of five weeks, the classes meeting daily.

By this arrangement the students were not receiving instruction in so great a variety of subjects at the same time and were not obliged to take examinations in so large a number of courses at the close of a semester. They could concentrate on two or three subjects for a period of five weeks, be examined in them and then take up the next group of subjects. This appeared to be a practical and businesslike plan and was similar in principle to that employed in universities where the year is divided into quarterly periods, all courses being given five times a week for one quarter, instead of continuing throughout a semester or the entire college year as in the majority of colleges and universities.

The first objection to the new plan was that the number of days for recitations was too much reduced by the frequent examination periods at the close of each five weeks. The second objection was that the more intensive pursuit of a subject during a short period did not, as was hoped, lead to a better comprehension and more lasting

knowledge of it. From the standpoint of pedagogy in fact less frequent exercises over a long period produce better results than does intensive work on a subject for a short period. The former distribution of work into units of a semester or year has therefore been restored.

E. E. SPERRY,

Director.

Western Reserve university

The practical work of the students in the Cleveland public library for one day each week, began October 11.

The course of lectures in Book selection has been given by Miss Thirza E. Grant of the regular faculty, and the series to be given by Mrs Julia S. Harron of the Cleveland public library began November 7.

The students attended the meeting of the Library section of the Northeastern Ohio teachers' association, October 27.

At the faculty meeting of the school, October 18, resolutions were adopted on the death of Miss Mary Wright Plummer, expressing grateful recognition of her constructive work and leadership.

The class of 1917 has organized and adopted the student government policy for the year; Margaret Cleaveland was elected president; Mildred Thomas, vice-president; and Ruth Kesel, secretary-treasurer. The class of 1916 was represented at the meeting by four members who brought greetings,

The Director entertained the class at her home recently and was assisted by her house guest, Miss Margaret W. Brown of Los Angeles, formerly of Iowa.

The annual reception was given by the faculty for the new class on the evening of November 6 in the rooms of the school. The guests were chiefly graduates of the school in Cleveland and immediate vicinity, and friends of the school connected with the libraries in Cleveland.

Alumni

Alice Williams, '15, leaves her position as cataloger at Birchard library, Fremont, Ohio, to become head of the Order department of the Public library, Portland, Oregon.

Eva M. Morris, '12, becomes cataloger at the Birchard library, Fremont, Ohio.

Margaret E. Calfee, '14, has become librarian of the Medical department, University of Texas, at Galveston.

Katherine Ruth Savord, '14, resigned her position in the catalog department, Cleveland public library, and is now a student at the University of Illinois, with part time work in the catalog department of the University library.

Annabel Learned, '11, has become cataloger at the San Bernardino free library, California.

Gordon W. Thayer, '12, has become librarian of the John G. White Folk-lore collection of the Cleveland public library.

Ruth Wilcox, '13, has been granted leave of absence from the Cleveland public library, and is a member of the senior class of the New York State library school.

Cards have been received announcing the marriages of the following graduates, class of '08:

Florence C. Gilbert to Howard Rual Robinson, of Ocean View, Oregon, October 24.

Elizabeth L. Elterich to Dr Edwin Robert Wiese, of Washington, D. C., October 11.

Luella E. Stollberg to O. A. Leach, Toledo, Ohio.

Alice S. Tyler,
Director.

University of Wisconsin

The schedule of lessons, practice work, required reading, and apprentice work is following the general plan of previous years, with some changes in emphasis in the different courses.

Weekly apprentice service, including loan desk work in the Madison free library and its two branches, the reading of shelves, and mending is going forward.

Special apprentice work is this year offered in the organization of the library of the University high school. Miss Mary Bell Nethercut, Wisconsin, '13, a graduate also of Smith college, and librarian of Rockford college since her graduation in 1913, has been added to the Library school staff.

The larger interpretation of library work is being brought into the regular course by lectures from the outside, as follows:

Oct. 4. Business correspondence, Prof E. H. Gardener, of the School of commerce, University.

Oct. 9. Library spirit, by Miss Stearns.

Oct. 13. The bookseller and the librarian, F. G. Melcher, Indianapolis. Mr

Melcher, for another appointment, read from the modern poets with various comment.

Oct. 14. A library tour, Mrs H. P. Sawyer, St. Louis public library.

Oct. 28. Library printing and labeling, Charles E. Brown, curator, Wisconsin historical museum.

Nov. 1. How history is written, Prof F. L. Paxon, University.

Nov. 3-4. Story telling, Nina C. Brotherton, Cleveland public library.

Nov. 8. The gathering and preserving of historical source material, Dr M. M. Quaife, superintendent of the Wisconsin historical library.

Beatrice Foster, of Macomb, Ill., a member of the class of 1917, died Oct. 16, from the effect of burns received in her room by accident. She was exceedingly well prepared both by education and experience to undertake a library school course. She had also a rare personality that marked her as true librarian.

The publications of our graduates are always of interest, and especially so are three bibliographies recently published by the H. W. Wilson Co. These were prepared as graduating bibliographies: *Daily newspapers in the United States*, by Callie Wieder, '14; *Masters of American Journalism*, by Julia C. Stockett, '14; and *Some Great American newspaper editors*, by Margaret Ely, '15. They were compiled in coöperation with Prof Willard G. Bleyer of the Department of journalism, and are intended for college students of journalism and for newspaper workers who are seeking references on various phases of journalism. They are published in pamphlets varying from 33 to 56 pages.

Marjorie G. Strong, '10, was married on Oct. 21, at her home in Dodgeville, Wis., to Chester C. Waters. They will be at home at 133 Chiswick Road, Boston, Mass.

Ruth P. Hayward, '12, resigned her position as a senior assistant in the Cataloging and reference department of the Cincinnati public library in September to become assistant cataloger in the Wisconsin historical library, October 10. She succeeds Miss Florence E. Dunton, '11, who resigned to return to her home in Maine for a year.

Gladys Smith, '12, writes that she is very pleasantly located in Pendleton, Oregon, where she is developing the work with schools in connection with the county library system of the Pendleton library.

Gertrude E. Aiken, '13, has been elected

librarian of the Public Library at Geneva, Ill.

Martha B. Burt, '14, who resigned as assistant in the Eau Claire public library in the early summer, has been appointed to a position as assistant in the Borough Park branch of the Brooklyn public library.

Louise A. Schoenleber, '15, has received a promotion to the position of assistant in the Milwaukee municipal reference library. She was formerly at the head of the literature section of the main library.

Ruth Worden, '15, has been appointed assistant in the Public library, Missoula, Mont.

Leona Hamilton, special '16, is head cataloger in the University of Idaho, Moscow.

MARY EMOGENE HAZELTINE,

Preceptor.

Province of Ontario

There were librarians from various parts of the province of Ontario who attended the course of training in li-

brary work offered by the Ontario government, under the direction of Mr Carson, inspector of public libraries, in Toronto, September 11-October 10. The school was open only to those already in the service and the students were given leave of absence by their boards to attend the school. The sessions were held in the Dovercourt branch but the entire public library system of Toronto was used for observation and practice.

The library institutes to be held throughout the province in the coming season will be held on the one-day plan. The day will be given up to one topic, book selection, and the evening, to a general meeting of the community in a discussion of the questions of the day and the part public libraries sustain in them.

Department of School Libraries

A Scheme for the Use of the Library Nicholas Senn high school, Chicago

[This bulletin should be read and explained carefully in each division room. After this explanation, the bulletin should be posted in each division room so that pupils may refer to it in order that there may be no mistake in the understanding of the use of the library.]

1. **Hours.** The library is open daily from 8 A. M. to 5 P. M. except first lunch and 6th periods.
2. **Use.** The library may be used as a reading-room by students of all years. During 8th period it is open only to those whose work is over for the day, not to those who have study the 8th period.
3. **Circulation of books.** 1, Books may be used in the reading room during the day without cards.

2, They may be drawn out on cards to take home over night, and are then to be returned before school next morning. In special cases, where their absence would not cause inconvenience to other persons, they may be kept longer; request should be made for this when the books are charged.

3, If necessary, a book may be taken out of the room for one period (not longer) during the day. The card is used for this.

4, The penalty for keeping the books out over time is withdrawal of card privileges.

4. **Registration.** 1, The student coming to the library brings an "admit slip" signed by the room teacher, and registers on a slip at the desk his name and study-room number, leaving both slips at the desk. The study-room slip is sent to his study room. No "Admit Slip" is used twice; a separate one is needed for each hour's attendance.

2, No "Admit Slip" is needed the 8th hour, but registration is made at the desk.

3, College students need no "Admit Slips," but should register at the desk each hour.

4, Students should get to the library *before the tardy bell rings, and remain for the entire period.*

5. **Reading-room rules.** 1, Silence and order are to be maintained through-

out the day, including the period from 3 to 5 p. m., and between classes.

2, The library is not a study room, and students should come to it only when they wish to use the library books.

Suspension from the reading room privilege is the penalty of violation of these two rules.

Coöperation

A leaflet on the use of public libraries, giving explanations of classification, the catalog, the reference room, clipping files, picture collections, and programs, as well as explanations of how to find a book, how to use the periodical indexes, etc., was distributed among the students of the public schools of Birmingham, Alabama, by the English teachers of the high schools to the members of the third and fourth year classes. It is to be filed by them in their note books for future reference. At the time the circular is distributed the teacher makes the necessary explanations and assigns to each pupil certain problems that can be answered only by intelligent use of the catalog, the indexes to periodicals, and the encyclopedias. The pupils do not come by classes to the library, but come individually to work out their problems.

Methods in Milwaukee normal school

Reserve books

In order that the library may render efficient service instructors are requested to notify the librarian at least an hour before the class is sent to the library for references on a particular subject. The book or books are then "reserved"—that is, taken off of the regular shelf and placed in a room opening off the library. These books are then charged to the students for an hour at a time, subject to renewal at the end of the hour if the demand is not too great.

Books on reserve cannot be taken from the library until 4:30 p. m. and must be returned before nine o'clock the following morning. A fine is charged if the students fail to observe these rules.

The reserve collection averages about 1,200 books and is in charge of students who volunteer their services for an hour a day for a term. An author card is made for each book put on reserve and the books are arranged on the shelves alphabetically according to class. This catalog and arrangement of books makes it very easy for anyone to know at any time just which books and how many copies of each are on reserve. Students who are unable to secure the references during the day may file application for the books for over night use.

In case instructors do not notify us to reserve a special reference the books are often confiscated by a few students and retained by them until the demand is over. The result is inefficient work by the class as a whole and a great deal of extra work for the librarians in trying to trace the books. When work with a reserve reference is completed the instructor notifies us and the book is returned to its proper place on the shelf.

We have tried out this method of reserving books for three years and find it very satisfactory.

Illustrative material

There has been a gratifying increase in the use of the illustrative material, i. e., pictures, industrial charts, educational exhibits, etc. Just as every school needs a collection of books in the school building for ready reference, so every school needs certain illustrative material at hand to vitalize and humanize the teaching.

Our illustrative material has been derived from many different sources. Much very valuable material for geography classes in the form of exhibits has been obtained from the manufacturers, for example, cement, cocoa, cotton, cork, salt, wheat, etc. Pictures are obtained from railroad guides, advertisements, and many come as a sort of by-product of library work, being clipped from old magazines and discarded books. Then we have the Mumford bird, flower, animal and tree pictures and many Perry, Prang and Cosmos prints.

News from the Field East

A collection of Lincoln material, collected by the late Alonzo Rothschild in a period of about 30 years, has been presented to the Widener library at Harvard by the widow of the collector. The collection will be known as the Rothschild Lincoln memorial library.

Miss Marguerite McL. Reid, for nearly 10 years at the head of the foreign department in the Providence public library, was married, Sept. 16, 1916, to Dr Francis W. Wetmore, of Pawtucket, R. I. Miss Reid's withdrawal is a loss keenly felt by the Providence public library. She was the first to occupy this important position, and she may be said virtually to have created the position, by her organizing skill, and indefatigable industry.

The forty-fourth annual report of the Woman's education association of Boston tells among the many activities of which it speaks, of the work that has been done for libraries. There is a total of 110 libraries, containing 4,108 books, that are circulated by the association during the year, making 154 visits to 122 towns. It is reported that the books on "Agriculture" come back unread. The same is true of the books on the war. The favorite books are Porter's "Miss Billy," Runkel's "Scarlet rider," Oppenheim's "Havoc," Rex Beach's "Ne'er-do-well," Curtis' "Woman from Wolverton," and Webster's "Daddy-long-legs." Altsheier, Holman Day and McCutcheon are names to "conjure with."

The record of the children's books are much the same. Five books of handicraft style, written for boys, circulated only twice, and "Bob Knight's diary on a farm," was passed over as probably savoring too much of the buck saw and the hoe.

The moving spirit in the library work is Miss Alice G. Chandler, of Lancaster, Mass. She is the secretary of the committee on libraries of the Woman's education association, but she is also the helpful spirit of the progressive work that is done with the small towns in Mas-

sachusetts and a valuable aid to the Free library commission.

Central Atlantic

Bertha M. Cudebec, N. Y. State '17, began her duties as librarian of the Albany free library, November 1.

Beulah Bailey, B. L. S., N. Y. State '16, is temporarily engaged in cataloging the library of the Russell Sage college of practical arts, Troy, N. Y.

A gift of a site on which she will erect a suitable library building has been given to Greenport, Long Island, by Miss Grace Floyd, as a memorial to her father.

Helen S. Carpenter, N. Y. State '10-11, formerly assistant in the circulation department of the New York public library, has joined the staff of the H. W. Wilson Company.

Miss Lydia Jacobus of Conshohocken, Pennsylvania, has been elected librarian of the Public library, Frederick, Maryland. Miss Jacobus succeeds Miss S. M. Akin.

Florence B. Custer, Drexel, '07, who was in charge of the Passyunk branch of the Philadelphia free library, died June 30, 1916. Emma L. Hellings, Drexel '01, has been appointed her successor.

Miss Grace E. Babbitt, for 14 years connected with the Public library in Washington City, died October 30. Dr Bowerman gave very high appraisal of Miss Babbitt's services to the library, in the *Washington Star*.

The Woman's Institute of Yonkers, New York, was founded, May 1, 1880, as Yonkers' Free Circulating library for self-supporting women. The Institute supports a library club, classes, an employment bureau, a savings bank and a lunch room. In the library, there are 7,000 v.; circulation, last year, 10,598 v.; 4,606 readers registered.

Eleanor H. Frick, Pratt, '95, who has been for some years librarian of the American society of civil engineers, has been made secretary of the Joint committee on classification of

technical literature, a committee of the recently consolidated engineering societies.

Central

Mrs Philip L. Allen, B. L. S., N. Y. State '11, has been appointed librarian of the College of St. Catharine at St. Paul, Minn.

Harriet C. Long, B. L. S., N. Y. State '10, has accepted the librarianship of the Brumback library, Van Wert, Ohio.

Irene E. Blair, N. Y. State '07-08, resigned the librarianship of the Public library at Owensboro, Ky., to become librarian of the Public library in her home city, Sedalia, Mo.

The bonds for the erection of a new library building for the city of Cleveland have been placed on the market. The bonds are twenty-five year bonds, and carry four and a half per cent interest.

The Public library of St. Paul, Minnesota, removed to its new building November 1. The building is not yet completed and will probably not be ready for full use before spring.

Sabra W. Vought, B. L. S., N. Y. State '01, is serving on the faculty of the University of Illinois library school in place of Miss Florence R. Curtis, who is on leave of absence for the current school year.

Ruth D. McCollough, B. L. S., N. Y. State '15, has been engaged as assistant in the Book selection and study club department of the Wisconsin free library commission.

The annual report of the Public library of Burlington, Iowa, records accessions, 2,893 v.; books on the shelves, 39,278 v.; circulation, 13,336, 58% fiction; cardholders, 7,254; expenditures for salaries, \$3,841; for books, \$2,536.

The report of the Traveling library department of the Ohio state library records the number of volumes issued 64,946, the highest number being sent to schools 255, to religious organizations 73, and to libraries 37.

Mrs Thomas B. Jennings, formerly head cataloger at Cornell university, who for the past two years has been assisting in the reorganization of the Randolph-Macon Woman's College library at Lynchburg, Virginia, has become reference librarian at the Iowa State college, Ames, Iowa.

Probably the first book of any type to be printed in the Western Hemisphere has been presented to the Newberry library of Chicago by Archbishop Plancare, of Linares, Mexico. The book was printed in 1576, and contains the words and chants used by the priests in the early Spanish missions of Mexico.

Dr W. J. Conklin, for a quarter of a century a strong member of the board of library trustees of Dayton, Ohio, died October 31, 1916. Resolutions expressing approval of the fine work he had accomplished for the Dayton public library were passed by various organizations of the city.

Francis L. D. Goodrich, B. L. S., N. Y. State '06, has succeeded Mr B. A. Finney as reference librarian at the University of Michigan. Mr Goodrich has been connected with the University library as chief of accessions since 1907.

A bond issued for the completion of the new library building for Detroit, was carried in the November election. The total cost of the building will be, approximately, \$1,350,000. Building operations will be resumed early in the spring, to be prosecuted until completion.

The architectural plans submitted for the new central building of the Cleveland public library have been on exhibition for some time. The firm of Walker & Weeks of Cleveland was selected as architects of the new building out of eight competitors. The other firms in the contest received \$1,000 each for their plans.

The Public library, Youngstown, Ohio, has received a gift of a moving picture machine from Henry H. Stambaugh. This will be used in the branch libraries or rented to any organization which cares

to use it and pay the operator and the rental of the films. The library will show films every Saturday afternoon to children and every Saturday evening to adults at the main library. The films already secured are from Shakespeare's plays, David Copperfield, Alice in Wonderland, Romona, Treasure Island, Les Misérables, Napoleon, and many others.

Pacific Coast

Mildred H. Pope, N. Y. State '15-'16, is librarian in charge of the Lincoln Park high-school library, Tacoma, Wash.

Anna K. Fossler, N. Y. State '00, has been appointed librarian of the Technology department of the Portland, (Ore.), library association.

The annual report of the Public library of Los Angeles announces a large expansion of the library's activities in all fields throughout the last year, most marked in the children's and in the reference departments. Number of books in the library, 277,634; membership, 160,133; circulation, 2,270,673 v.; fiction, 57.4%; amount paid for salaries, 51.8%; books, 16.9%; increase in total expenditure, 5.8%. The library received from fines, \$8,539; from duplicate fiction, \$1,204.

The following changes have been made in the staff of the Public library, Tacoma, Wash.:

Agnes F. P. Greer, resigned, to go to the Kansas City public library. Louise Smith, resigned, to become librarian of the Lincoln high school, Seattle. Marjorie Mills, resigned, to attend college. Virginia Slagle, resigned, to go to the Agricultural college, Pullman, Wash. Marion E. Wallace, resigned, to become head of the children's department of the Bloomington (Ill.) public library. Ruth Davis has been appointed to the Reference department. Mildred Pope appointed librarian of the Lincoln Park high school. Jennie C. Engell, head of the Lending department. Alice Stoeltzing, children's librarian, Main children's room.

The report of the Public library of San Diego, Cal., records the many changes and improvements which have

been made under the re-organization. The improvement in lighting arrangements, and re-distribution in the library rooms, together with repairs, have greatly improved the appearance of the rooms.

The home circulation showed a gain of 32 per cent. The cost per book of circulation was 10.3 cents. Two new branches were opened during the year, and several deposit stations established. The expenditures for the year were \$31,480, of which 49+% was for staff salaries, 17+% for books, and nearly three per cent for periodicals and newspapers. Lists and bibliographies on special subjects for clubs and schools were an important feature of the work. The picture collection now numbers about 2,000.

Canada

The new branch library at High Park has been opened in Toronto. Its building was carefully planned and is of the seventeenth century type, adapted to the requirements of a modern library, and as such, is a "decided departure from the prevailing type of library architecture."

Foreign

The twenty-seventh annual report of the Public library of Belfast, Ireland, reports that nine from its staff have joined the army. Circulation has somewhat decreased, being 64,910 v. last year, with 25,986 v. on the shelves.

For Sale—Three Bates' numbering machines, two slightly worn, one new, for accessioning. Address, Syracuse public library, Syracuse, New York.

For Sale—One set Century dictionary, 10 v., including map and atlas, cloth, good condition. \$12.50. Geological survey of Illinois, Vol. 1-6, \$30. Geological and geographical survey of Idaho and Wyoming, 1878, 2 vols. Plates. Economical geology of Illinois, Vol. 1-3. Address Matilda F. Salter, Carbondale, Ill.

The work lives on, bringing rich fruitage
In the years to come,
After the master's busy tools are quiet
And the master's lips are dumb.

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